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SCOTLAND DELINEATED,
OR A
GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION
OF EVERY SHIRE IN
SCOTLAND,
INCLUDING THE
NORTHERN AND WESTERN ISLES.

WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THE CURIOSITIES,
ANTIQUITIES, AND PRESENT STATE
OF THE COUNTRY.

FOR THE USE OF YOUNG PERSONS.



UNA GENS SUMUS,—ET SIMUS IN ÆVUM.

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ENTERED IN STUDENT'S HALL.





ADVERTISEMENT.

ENGLAND has lately been delineated by an able hand; and the present work is an attempt to complete the description of our Island, on a plan somewhat similar to that of the ingenious performance alluded to.

THE Editor cannot omit this opportunity of expressing his thanks to those Gentlemen who have obligingly favoured him with communications; and begs leave to add, that he will still gratefully receive such candid observations as may enable him to supply defects, in the event of a future edition.

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P R E F A C E

MANY of the inhabitants of England, and not a few even in the metropolis of Scotland, have very little knowledge of the northern part of Great Britain, and its numerous isles. Nor is the acquisition of this knowledge very easy: For, though tours and other publications respecting Scotland are sufficiently numerous, yet no single book, of moderate size, has hitherto appeared, which exhibits a general view of the topography and present state of this country.

To supply this defect, in some measure, is the purpose of the present attempt.

A

Our

Our narrow limits, however, admit not of minute accuracy. We mean not to dive into antiquity, or to revive vulgar traditions; neither will we take up time in pointing out the errors or defects of those who have gone before us. We decline all invidious censure; wishing to apply ourselves to a more pleasing, though more laborious task,—that of collecting such information as may be at once certain, useful and agreeable. In short, our aim is to afford the young reader a true, though very general, idea of the subject; to mark slightly the track he must afterwards pursue with patient industry; to excite his curiosity; to facilitate his progress, and strew flowers in his path.

In early life, no books are read with greater avidity, than such as offer instruction united with entertainment. Whether this small performance be of that character, and how far it might be useful in schools, we presume not to decide.

Besides

Besides affording instruction to youth, our labours, we hope, may be also acceptable to many who have neither leisure nor opportunity to consult a variety of books; and perhaps, even those who are most intelligent in such matters, may here find some things not unworthy of their notice.

In a work of this kind, some mode of arrangement being absolutely necessary, we have adopted that which appeared to us the most simple. After exhibiting a sketch of the country in general, we proceed to examine its particular parts. The Scottish isles are separately described. The counties, beginning with the most northern, are next brought under view, in their order. The method pursued is, first, to point out the Boundaries, the Form and the Dimensions of the county or place described; then, to notice what seems most remarkable in the Northern parts; proceeding successively to the Eastern, the Southern

Southern and the Western. From this plan, however, we sometimes find it requisite to depart; but the reader will, in most instances, easily perceive the reason of the deviation.

The geographical part must rest on the authority of the best modern maps and descriptions. In this department, we have studied the utmost possible brevity. Latitudes, longitudes, distances of towns, and the like, are readily seen on a good map; nor can these matters be much elucidated by words*.

The topography, or description of places, has, in general, been derived from respectable sources. Some gentlemen of distinguished literary abilities, have lately

* The best map of Scotland is that published by AINSLIE in 1789, from an actual survey.

A small map copied from the above, and neatly engraved by Mr AINSLIE, is prefixed to this work.

ly given elaborate descriptions of many parts of Scotland. Their delineations are for the most part accurate, and often graced with the charms of elegance. The splendid productions of PENNANT and GILPIN, with some others, are well known to the public; and the reader will not be displeased to see, that we have frequently borrowed the spirited language of these ingenious writers; especially in mentioning the grand or beautiful natural objects, the fine remains of antiquity, and the specimens of modern elegance, that embellish this country.

The population, improvement and present state of trade, agriculture and manufactures, are noticed, as far as we could obtain good information. On these subjects, however, we have rather chosen to appear deficient, than to advance any thing without proper authority.

While those places pass under our view, which have been the scenes of memorable events, we are occasionally led to glance at a few historical facts: Nor do we refuse, now and then, to mark the birth-place of the hero, the patriot, or the man of letters.

The laudable intention of this undertaking, may perhaps be admitted as an apology for defects in the execution: For whatever may tend to promote a purpose so valuable as the instruction of youth, is surely deserving of indulgence; and if it shall be found, that we have contributed, though but in a moderate degree, to make our young countrymen better acquainted than they usually are, with their native land, our design will be accomplished.

S C O T.

SCOTLAND IN GENERAL.

NORTH BRITAIN, though less extensive, opulent and populous, than the southern part of the island, is not, on that account, unworthy of attention. Few countries of the same extent, have attained an equal degree of celebrity with Scotland. In arts and in arms, her sons have been renowned in the most distant parts of the world. From her rudest mountains descends the hardy warrior, ever ready to add fresh lustre to the British arms. Her boisterous seas, rocky shores and rapid tides, inure the mariner to those dangers and fatigues which he

cheerfully encounters in defence of his country. Her mineral stores are valuable; and the fishery on her coasts presents an inexhaustible treasure.

Scotland is *bounded* on all sides by the sea, except on the south-east, where it is joined to England. The Shetland and Orkney isles, and the northern coast of Scotland, are washed by the great North Sea; its eastern shores are confined by the German Sea; and the islands and rugged cliffs, on its western coast, repel the waves of the Atlantic Ocean.

Its utmost *extent*, from north to south, (measuring from Cape Wrath to the Mull of Galloway) is about two hundred and seventy miles. Its breadth is various. Where broadest, (from Applecroft to Peterhead), it measures above one hundred and fifty miles; where narrowest, (from the Frith of Forth to that of the Clyde) scarce thirty. Its form is extremely irregular,

regular, being greatly broken and indented by arms of the sea. It is a fact somewhat curious, that there is no place in Scotland above forty miles distant from the shore.

This country may be divided into three parts; which we shall call the *north*, the *middle*, and the *south* divisions. The boundaries of these are strongly marked by the hand of Nature. The first is cut off by a chain of lakes which cross the island in an oblique direction from north-east to south-west, stretching from Inverness to the isle of Mull. The second, or middle division, is separated from the southern, by the hollow tract between the Forth and the Clyde, through which the great Canal is carried.

The *face of the country*, in the northern division, exhibits, in general, little else than an assemblage of vast dreary mountains. On the northern and eastern shores
of

of this division, however, there are many vales and level tracts, of considerable fertility.

The middle division contains many great ranges of mountains, which traverse this part of the island in various directions. The most southerly ridge, called the Grampian Hills, extends from Aberdeenshire in a south-west direction, terminating in the great mountain Benlomond, in Stirlingshire. In this division, too, cultivation and improvement are chiefly found on the eastern coast. One of the finest tracts in Scotland, however, is the great vale called Strathmore, stretching along the southern base of the Grampian Mountains. We may add, that in both these divisions, which comprehend more than two thirds of Scotland, the arable ground bears but a small proportion to the mountainous regions, of which the sterility will ever, in a great measure, defy the efforts of human industry.

On

On the eastern shores of the middle division, and in the whole southern division, the country bears more resemblance to England; and the proportion of cultivated ground is very considerable. Here we find every sort of rural variety: 'In some parts are seen verdant plains water-
' ed by copious streams, and covered with
' innumerable cattle. In others, the pleasing vicissitudes of gently rising hills and
' bending vales, fertile in corn, waving
' with wood, and interspersed with meadows, offer the most delightful landscapes of rural opulence and beauty.
' Some tracts abound with prospects of the more romantic kind,—lofty mountains, craggy rocks, deep narrow dells
' and tumbling torrents; nor are there
' wanting, as a contrast to so many agreeable scenes, the gloomy features of black
' barren moors, and wide uncultivated
' heaths*.'

The

* England Delineated, p. 12, 13.

The *rivers* in Scotland are in general rapid, and remarkably transparent. In so narrow a country, however, we cannot expect to find rivers equal to the Rhine or the Danube. But, when their rapidity and the shortness of their course, are kept in view, we must allow that the Scottish streams are by no means inconsiderable. Half the water they discharge, would, in a level country, make very broad and deep rivers.

Though there are many large and rapid streams in the northern and middle divisions, yet the Spey may be reckoned the most northerly great river. It descends from the centre of Invernessshire, with all the fury of a mountain torrent when swelled by rains, or melted snow, rushing along, impetuous and irresistible. The Don and the Dee, which pass through Aberdeenshire, are large rivers; and the Tay discharges into the sea at Perth, the greatest body of water perhaps of any river

ver in Britain. In the southern parts, the Tweed, the Clyde and the Forth, are noble rivers,—the pride of the natives, and the admiration of strangers. After these, we may notice the Esk, the Annan, the Nith, and the southern Dee, which, with several other fine streams, fall into the Solway Frith.

The *lakes* of this country are numerous, and some of them very extensive. Any attempt to describe, or even to enumerate these, in this place, would greatly exceed our limits. But such is their picturesque beauty, and such the fine scenery by which they are surrounded, that neither the happiest strokes of the pencil, nor the warmest glow of poetic enthusiasm, are adequate to convey an idea of the charming prospects they afford.

In viewing the *coast*, we shall begin at the south-east angle of Scotland. From
Berwick

Berwick the coast bends towards the north-west, till it reach the Frith of Forth. Next, the eastern part of Fife, jutting out into the sea, divides the Frith of Forth from the estuary of the Tay. From thence to Peterhead, the shore slopes to the north-east. Proceeding northward, we find a vast gap in the coast, nearly in the form of an equilateral triangle, of which each side measures about eighty miles. The southern part of this great opening is called the Murray Frith. Near its interior angle, on the north side, are the Friths of Cromarty and Dornoch, divided by a peninsula projecting eastward. Between this and the north-east point of Scotland, there are several bays and narrow creeks.

The northern coast is in general rocky and dangerous. It is divided from the Orkney Isles by a narrow channel, called the Pentland Frith. It, however, affords many inlets of the sea, and natural harbours.

bours. The most remarkable is Dunnet bay, near the town of Thurso.

The western part of Scotland seems to be shattered by the fury of the waves. Islands every where appear detached, and, as it were, torn from the land. Thirty or forty miles west from the coast, a range of isles, sometimes called the Long Island, stretches from north to south above a hundred miles. Between these and the coast lies the Isle of Sky; and to the south we find the Isle of Mull, and many others of inferior size. The whole western coast is deeply indented with numberless openings, where the sea runs in between high lands, forming safe harbours, defended from the rage of the ocean by the numerous islands to the westward. The three greatest openings on this coast are Linne Loch, near the Isle of Mull; Loch Fyne in Argyleshire; and the estuary of the Clyde. The entrance to the Frith of Clyde exhibits one
of

of the most extensive bays in Scotland, formed by a long sweep of the Ayrshire coast, and protected on the west by the Island of Arran, and the peninsula of Cantyre, which stretches out within fifteen miles of the coast of Ireland.

The great opening which forms the southern coast of Scotland, is called the Solway Frith. On this coast there are several fine bays and harbours, and a safe road for shipping at the mouth of the southern Dee. The Solway Frith divides Scotland from Cumberland in England; and from this frith a natural boundary on the English border, is nearly completed by the Cheviot hills and the Tweed.

The *climate* of Scotland is various in different places. The northern extremity, which is on the same parallel of latitude with some parts of Norway, is very cold: But the frosts are much less intense here than in any part of the continent

ment equally far north; an advantage arising from an insular situation. The whole west coast is subjected to frequent summer rains, and sudden changes in the atmosphere, equally unfavourable to the ripening and gathering in of the products of the earth. The climate in many places on the eastern coast, and in the whole south division, is not inferior to that of the northern part of England. The air in Scotland is in general healthy; nor do we here find any such extensive fens as those of Lincolnshire, and other low tracts in South Britain.

The *produce* of the soil in the northern parts of Scotland, and its isles, is not considerable: But lime-stone, shell-sand, and marl, those rich manures, are found in great plenty in different places. Even the rocky shores produce abundance of kelp, an article of considerable importance in several manufactures. The fisheries in the surrounding seas have long
B been

been esteemed an object of national importance. When increasing commerce shall enable the inhabitants to form roads, erect towns, and open canals, in those remote parts of the country, these fisheries may become a real source of wealth to the nation.

The products of Scotland, in general, are, however, multifarious and valuable. It feeds vast herds of cattle; and its hills are covered with sheep. It produces much grain and flax. Its woods of oak and fir might furnish masts and timber for the use of the British Navy. Its mines are rich in coal, in lead, and in iron. Freestone, limestone and slate are found in abundance. Neither Greece nor Italy can boast a greater store of beautiful marble. Fine rock-crystals, pearls, and variegated pebbles, are not uncommon. Its rivers and lakes are richly stored with salmon and trout, and a variety of other fishes.

The

The Scottish mountains, in former times, were infested by the wolf and the bear; but happily those ferocious animals have long been extirpated. The wild ox was also an inhabitant of the Caledonian forest: Herds of wild roes, to this day, range at large in the northern mountains; and the stag, with his branching antlers, is often seen in the woods. There, too, the beautiful bird called capercailzie, or cock of the wood, is sometimes found. The lofty summits are the haunt of the ptarmigan, and the Alpine hare. Black game and grouse swarm among the heath, and often become the prey of the eagle and the falcon.

Among the wild animals which Scotland possesses in common with England, are the fox, the badger, the otter, the hedgehog, the hare and rabbit; the weasel, the mole, and other small quadrupeds; — the partridge, the quail,

the snipe, the plover, and many other birds.

The cattle and sheep are small, but much valued for the delicacy of their flesh ; and the fleece of the Scottish sheep often emulates the finest Spanish wool. Even the shepherd's dog peculiar to Scotland, so hardy, docile and sagacious, is not unworthy of mention.

Though the cattle in the high grounds be diminutive, yet in many parts of the country the horses and cows are not inferior in size and beauty to those of the English breed.

The *trade* and *population* of great towns have considerably increased of late. Some districts, however, on the western shores especially, are almost depopulated. Whole colonies have, at once, forsaken their native shores ; and the country is annually drained of its inhabitants,

inhabitants, by the emigration of individuals, tempted by the illusive view of riches. It has thence been conjectured, that the number of inhabitants in Scotland has decreased considerably within this century.

However that may be, the improvements, the industry and the *riches* lately introduced into Scotland, form a striking contrast with the *poverty* of former times. This favourable change may be considered as the effect of those liberal principles, and enlightened views, for which many spirited friends of Scotland are at present so eminently distinguished.

Luxury is generally the concomitant of opulence. In dress and in equipage, the Scots have begun to emulate their more wealthy neighbours. It is a fact well known, that some ordinary mechanics are now better clothed and fed, and better lodged, than many of the most re-

spectable persons in the nation were, not a hundred years ago.

National prejudices are gradually losing ground on both sides; and the language, as well as the dress and manners of the English, begins to gain the ascendancy. In short, the happy æra seems not very distant, when the ENGLISH and SCOTS shall be, in every sense of the word, ONE NATION.

THE

THE
COUNTIES
OF
SCOTLAND,
AS ARRANGED IN THIS WORK.

Scottish Isles.

1. { SHETLAND,
ORKNEY.

HEBRIDES or WESTERN ISLES.

2. { BUTE,
CAITHNESS,
3. SUTHERLAND,
4. ROSS,
5. CROMARTY and NAIRNE,
6. INVERNESS,
7. MURRAY,
8. BANFF,
9. ABERDEEN,
10. KINCARDINE or MEARNES,
11. ANGUS or FORFAR,

B 4

12. PERTH,

12. PERTH,
13. FIFE,
14. KINROSS and CLACKMANNAN,
15. STIRLING,
16. DUMBARTON,
17. ARGYLE,
18. RENFREW,
19. AYE,
20. WIGTON,
21. KIRKCUDBRIGHT,
22. DUMFRIES,
23. ROXBURGH,
24. SELKIRK,
25. PEEBLES,
26. LANERK,
27. LINLITHGOW,
28. EDINBURGH,
29. HADDINGTON,
30. BERWICK.

There are properly *thirty-three* counties in Scotland; but three of them (Caithness, Nairne and Clackmannan) being conjoined with others, they, in all, send only *thirty* Members to Parliament. These, with *fifteen* sent by the whole boroughs, make up *forty-five* Scottish Members.

SCOTLAND

SCOTLAND DELINEATED.

SCOTTISH ISLES.

THE islands of Scotland are partly situated in the North, and partly in the West Sea. Though widely scattered around the coast, yet the similarity of soil, climate, and manners of the inhabitants, which prevails almost every where among these islands, suggested the idea of describing them separately from what we may call the Continent of Scotland. We begin, therefore, with the Northern Isles, comprehending Shetland and Orkney; then proceed to the Hebrides or Western Isles, and from thence return to the northern extremity of the continent.

continent of Scotland. The most northern of the Scottish isles are those of

S H E T L A N D.

ALTHOUGH the Shetland or *Zetland* islands* are pretty numerous, being in all above forty, yet there is only one that is of considerable extent. The *Mainland*, as it is called, is about sixty miles in length, from north to south. It is very narrow, and its breadth, which seldom exceeds six miles, varies greatly in different parts. To the east and north lie several other islands, of which only the two largest shall be here noticed. The island of *Yell* is above twelve miles long, and about eight broad, and has several good

* The Shetland isles lie about 100 miles N. N. E. from Caithness, in the same parallel of latitude with Bergen in Norway,—the island Allan, in the Gulph of Bothnia, and the lake of Ladoga in Russia, viz. between $59^{\circ} 56'$ and $61^{\circ} 11'$ north latitude.

good natural harbours and anchoring places. Beyond it lies the island of *Unst*, about eight miles long, and four broad. It is the most remote of the Scottish isles, extending beyond the sixty-first degree of north latitude. To the west appears the little island *Fula*, or *Tbule*, thought by some to be the same, which the ancients reckoned the ultimate limit of the habitable earth, and to which they therefore gave the appellation of *Ultima Tbule**. Several other islands of inferior note are seen scattered around the Mainland.

These islands are, in general, rocky and barren, and many of them uninhabited. A general description of the largest, or Mainland, will enable the reader to form an idea of the others.

Notwith-

* It is, however, very doubtful, if this be really the island called by the ancients *Ultima Tbule*; because had they reached it, they must have seen land still farther to the north-east, as the Mainland, Yell and Unst are all farther north.

Notwithstanding the great length of this island, it is of a form so irregular, and every where so deeply indented and intersected by arms of the sea, that there is no part of it above three miles distant from the shore. Some of these numerous inlets, here called Voes, form extensive bays, diversified with holms*, and towering insulated rocks, which are covered with an innumerable multitude of sea-fowls. Others are formed by nature into safe and commodious harbours, where the largest ships may enter, and remain secure from the rage of the tempest.

The face of the country exhibits a prospect of black, craggy mountains, and marshy plains, interspersed with some verdant spots, which appear smooth and fertile.

* Small flat uninhabited islands are in the north of Scotland called *holms*. The same word is used in other parts of the country, to signify flat arable land, lying along rivers. Such grounds are also called *baughs*.

fertile. No tree nor shrub is seen, except the juniper and the heath. The mountains abound with various kinds of game. The coast is covered with jagged and stupendous rocks. Huge promontories project into the sea, and seem to brave the fury of the waves. Over these are seen lofty and impending cliffs, the habitation of the eagle, the falcon and the raven. The shelves and deep caverns underneath are the abode of the seal and the otter; the winding bays are at times occupied by the swan, the goose, the teal, and an innumerable tribe of aquatic birds. The surrounding sea teems with fish of various kinds; such as the cod, the turbot, and the haddock*. But above all, at certain seasons, the seas are filled with shoals of herrings of incredible extent. At the same time, they are visited by the whale and other voracious fishes. Of the testaceous tribe are found

* Most of the fishing banks lie at the distance of thirty or forty miles from the coast.

found the lobster, the oyſter, the muſcle, and many others.

The hills are covered with ſheep of a ſmall breed, and of a rough and ſhaggy appearance; but their fleece is uſually remarkably ſoft, and ſometimes extremely fine. From their wool, ſtockings of a large ſize have been made, of ſo fine a texture, as that a pair were capable of paſſing through a gold ring. The greater part of the wool produced in this country, however, is of a very inferior quality. In the vallies are ſeen herds of black cattle, alſo of a ſmall kind. The horſes, too, are of a peculiar breed, and notwithſtanding their diminutive ſize, are often remarkably ſtrong and handſome. They are well known by the appellation of Shelties, being ſo called from the name of the country.

Many excellent ſprings ariſe in the mountains, and deſcend in ſmall ſtreams toward

toward the plains, forming rivulets and considerable lakes, abounding with salmon, trouts, and other fishes.

Various metallic veins, slate, freestone and limestone are found in different parts of Shetland. A mine of copper and another of iron have been lately opened near the southern extremity of the Mainland. These mines are in the hands of the Anglesey company, and are said to be remarkably productive. There is here an inexhaustible store of peat, but no coal.

Lerwick, the chief town of Shetland, is situated on the east side of the Mainland. It is the rendezvous of the fishing buffes, from Britain, Holland, Denmark, and other parts. Notwithstanding of this, there are fewer herrings caught in the seas about Shetland, than on the coast of any of the other islands; the principal fishing of these islands being for cod and other white fish. Between this town
and

and the little island *Brassa*, is the noted *Brassa Sound*, where a thousand sail of vessels might at once find commodious mooring. There are several small villages, or rather groups of cottages, seen around the coast, which are chiefly inhabited by fishers. These people are very dexterous in their employment, and, for the most part, remarkably industrious. When the season does not permit them to fish, they are constantly busied in preparing lines or nets, or in knitting stockings. In this last occupation, the women and children are at all times engaged, and thence they attain a method of working with astonishing rapidity. Thus, great quantities of coarse stockings are annually imported from *Shetland*, which, though knitted on wires, are sold at the low price of fourpence each pair.

The islands of *Shetland* are said to contain twenty thousand inhabitants.

Shetland

Shetland is included under the shire of Orkney.

The *Fair Isle* is situated about fifteen leagues to the south-west, nearly mid-way between Shetland and Orkney, from both which its high towering rocks are plainly discovered. On the east side of this island, the Duke of Medina Sidonia, chief Admiral of the Spanish Armada, was wrecked in 1588.

About twenty leagues to the south of Shetland, lie the *Orcades*, or

ORKNEY ISLES.

THESE, like the former, are a cluster of islands, about twenty-six in number, of which one greatly exceeds the rest in extent. This, too, is dignified with the title of the Mainland; it is also frequently called *Pomona*. It is about twenty-

four miles in length, and nine in breadth. Beyond this island, toward the north-east, among others, are seen *Rowsay* and *Westra*, *Shappinsha* and *Edda*, *Stronsa*, *Sandda* and *North Ronaldsha*. To the south appear the isles of *Hoy* and *South Ronaldsha*, together with others of inferior note.

The currents and tides which flow between these islands, are extremely rapid and dangerous; and near the little isle of *Swinna*, there are two whirlpools, that have been known to snatch in boats and light vessels, which were instantly swallowed up in the fatal vortex. The strait called *Pentland Frith*, which divides these islands from *Caithness*, is also very dangerous to those who are not well acquainted with the tides and currents on the coast; particularly in passing the *Pentland Skerries*, a cluster of rocks that lie in the east entrance of the Frith.

The

The general appearance of the country in the island of Pomona, is not much different from that of the Mainland of Shetland. The soil is, however, more fertile, and in some parts better cultivated.

Many springs of pure water are every where found in the mountainous parts of Orkney, which produce numerous lakes and rivulets, well stored with fish. The heath on the mountains affords shelter to a variety of game; such as grouse, plover and snipe; but there are no partridges nor hares in these islands; neither are they infested with foxes. Immense numbers of rabbits burrow in the sandy wailes. The hills afford pasture for sheep and black cattle, which are, like those of Shetland, of a small kind. The valleys and plains produce oats and bear*, or barley, but no other grain.

C 2

Kirkwall,

* An inferior sort of barley is, in Scotland, called *bear*, though the term is sometimes extended to every

Kirkwall, the capital of Orkney, is built upon an inlet of the sea, near the middle of the island, on the east side, and is about a mile in length. It is a royal borough, and the seat of the head courts. The most striking object is the stately cathedral of St Magnus. This venerable Gothic edifice has a handsome spire, and its arched roof is supported by fourteen stone pillars on each side. At the north end of the town is a fortification built in the time of Oliver Cromwell, on which some cannon are mounted, for the defence of the harbour.

Stromness is the only other remarkable town on this island. It stands nearly opposite to Kirkwall, on the west side. It has an excellent harbour, and is much frequented by vessels passing those coasts.

Between

every fort. What is called *rough bear*, carries four rows of grain, whereas barley has only two.

Between Kirkwall and Stromness, at *Stennis*, there is a curious causeway or bridge across a narrow neck of land, between two lakes. At the end of this causeway, there are erected some stones of surprising magnitude, rising to the height of twenty feet. In the neighbourhood are several other huge masses of stone, which bear a great resemblance to the noted monument, called Stonehenge, on Salisbury Plain in England.

In various parts of these isles similar appearances are observed. The artificial round hillocks, called Brughs or Picts houses, are often surrounded by large upright stones. These Brughs are supposed to have been Druidical temples, or places of worship.

On the island of *Hoy*, besides the great conic hill of *Hoyhead*, which is a sea-mark, there is a stupendous rock, called the *Beary*, where a bird here named

the *layer*, supposed to be a species of penguin, is found. It is about the size of a small duck, remarkably fat, and esteemed by many a great delicacy. These birds burrow in the rabbit-holes. The person employed in taking the young, is usually let down by means of a rope from the top of the precipice.

In this island, too, amid a gloomy valley, there is an entire stone of thirty-six feet in length, and eighteen in breadth, known by the name of the *Dwarfic Stone*. It is hollow within, having the form of a bed and pillow cut in the stone; and is supposed to have been formerly the habitation of a hermit.

The climate of the Northern Isles is far from being favourable. They, however, suffer less from frost and snow than might be expected from their northerly situation,

situation. The air is, in general, moist; and they are subjected frequently to dreadful storms of wind, rain and thunder. Their longest day is about nineteen hours, and their shortest about four and a half. Thus they enjoy the light of the sun for about three weeks in midsummer almost without intermission; and for an equal space in winter, the sun scarce rises above the horizon, and is generally obscured by mists and clouds. During this dreary season, their want of day is supplied partly by moon-light: But what contributes still more to this purpose, is the splendour of the Aurora Borealis, of which the almost incessant coruscations are, at that time, sublimely beautiful.

The inhabitants are a robust and hardy race of men. Those of superior rank are distinguished for hospitality and politeness, and the inferior class are, in general, active and industrious. The English

language prevails in all these islands; though there are many words of the Norse, or Norwegian, tongue still in use; The annual visits of the herring-busses must render the Dutch also pretty familiar to the inhabitants of Shetland.

Though churches are sufficiently numerous in the Northern Isles, yet it is to be regretted, that so few teachers are appointed for the instruction of the lonely islanders. The office of a pastor here is truly a Herculean labour, the parochial duty being often extended to several very distant islands, separated from each other by dangerous seas. The rays of knowledge have, however, begun to dawn even in those remote parts; and by the great exertions of the few persons employed in the arduous task, the common people are now, in a great measure, freed from their former superstition and ignorance.

The

The chief trade of these islands is with Leith, Hamburg and Bergen in Norway; which last mentioned port is only forty-four leagues distant, to the north-east of Shetland. The principal exports are woollen and linen yarn, stockings, butter, dried fish, herrings, oil, feathers and skins of various kinds. To these we may add kelp, a commodity prepared from the ashes of the algæ or sea-weed. Many poor people are annually employed during the summer, in gathering and burning the kelp, an article much used in the soap and glass manufactories.

The fisheries on the northern coasts have long been justly viewed as an object of great importance. But the remote situation; the difficulty of access; the great expence of providing a proper quantity of materials for catching and curing the fish; and, above all, the precariousness of these fishings, are so many causes that have almost always conspired to

to frustrate the sanguine expectations of adventurers. It is now, however, to be hoped, that the patriotic exertions of a most respectable Society, lately instituted for promoting the British Fisheries, may at last rescue this rich marine treasure from the hands of the Dutch and the Danes, who still continue to reap from it the greatest advantages.

HEBRIDES.

HEBRIDES.

The Hebrides, Ebuda, or Western Isles, are very numerous. Their northern extremity is situated almost forty leagues to the west of Orkney.

Lewis and Harris, North Uist, Benbecula, South Uist, and Bara, form a chain of islands stretching southward, which terminate in a cluster of rocks, called the *Bishop's Isles*.

About eighteen leagues to the west of North Uist lies the small island of *St Kilda*. A great number of the poor people in this island live chiefly by fishing and catching wild fowl. In the latter employment they are sometimes incredibly adventurous; being often let down by a rope from the summit of high

high precipitous rocks, where they clamber among the rugged cliffs, in search of the eggs and nests of various birds. But the more safe and ordinary method of catching those fowls is, by spreading a large net over the face of the rock where they lodge, in which great numbers are at once entangled, and lowered down into a boat below. St Kilda is the most westerly island of Great Britain: Between it and North America there is no land.

Lewis and *Harris* being connected by a narrow isthmus, form but one island, which is about sixty miles in length, and of considerable breadth toward the middle and north end. Like most of the Scottish isles, it is greatly intersected by arms of the sea. By these it may be said to be divided into five peninsulas. The northern part of the island is a flat morass, covered with heath. To the south the ground is very unequal;

unequal; and in Harris especially, it is extremely rugged, though the hills, in no place, rise to any considerable height.

The country is in general wild, bleak, barren of wood, and little fitted for cultivation; the hills are covered with heath, which affords shelter for various sorts of game. The lakes and streams abound with salmon, large red trout, and other fishes. The land animals here are similar to those found in the Northern Isles, and the fishings on the coast are not inferior.

The only town in Lewis is *Stornaway*, situated on the east side of the north division of the island. Though not of considerable extent, yet by the attention of the proprietor*, it is become a flourishing town, and is daily increasing. Several fishing buffes belong to it; and it has the advantage of a custom-house and post-

* Mr MACKENZIE of Seaforth.

post-office. The trade is chiefly in fish, kelp, oil, feathers and skins. Before it, there is a large bay and a commodious harbour. The island of Lewis belongs to the shire of Ross. The other islands are comprehended under Invernessshire.

North and South Uist are each about twenty miles in length, and of considerable breadth: Benbecula and Bara are much smaller. These islands at low water almost communicate with each other, and are therefore sometimes called the *Long Island*. In all these isles the west coast is low and flat; the soil of a fine shell sand, in many parts very fertile; but the ground rises to the east coast, where it is barren, and breaks off abrupt, irregular and steep. Benbecula, between North and South Uist, is the only exception. This island, surrounded by a flat shore, rises gently on all sides into several little sloping hills toward its centre. In some parts of these islands, the soil admits not of

of being plowed, being rocky and uneven: It is therefore cultivated with a kind of crooked spade, called there *cas-chrom*. At the southern extremity of this range of isles, are many fine banks for the cod and ling fishery.

To the west of Lewis and Harris, the coast is annually visited by myriads of herrings. So immense are the shoals of dog-fish that pursue the herrings, that their dorsal fins are sometimes seen like a thick bush of sedges above water, as far as the eye can reach. From the liver of the dog-fish a considerable quantity of oil is extracted. In the season, these shores are the resort of many fishing vessels from different parts.

Many of the inhabitants here, as well as in the Northern Isles, live chiefly by fishing, and a pitiful kind of agriculture. The Gaelic prevails among the lower class of people; but in the schools the English

English language is principally taught. The people are, in general, remarkably shrewd and intelligent, owing to this circumstance, that many of them having served in the army, bring home with them the knowledge they have acquired abroad: Nay, even those of the lowest class, are remarkably obliging. Here again we must be permitted to express our hopes and our wishes, that the establishment of fishing towns, on those coasts and islands, under the patronage of the patriotic Society formerly mentioned, may soon introduce commerce, industry and wealth into those remote parts.

In the great found called the *Minch**, between the Long Island and the continent of Scotland, close on the coast of Rossshire, lies the Isle of Skye.

Skye

* *Minch* corresponds to the French word *Manche*, signifying a *channel*, such as divides France from England.

Skye is one of the largest of the Hebrides, extending above fifty miles in length, from north-west to south-east, and being in some places above twenty miles in breadth. It is intersected by many creeks and inlets of the sea. The south-east side of the island swells gently from the coast in a verdant slope, in some parts adorned with trees, over which appear the naked hills of *Strath*. Above these soars the rugged summit of *Cullin*, or *Cucbullin**,

‘ Catching the clouds of heaven.’

On the south-west (says Mr Pennant)
 ‘ are seen a series of rude mountains,
 ‘ discoloured black and red, as by the
 ‘ rage of fire; and on the east, a long
 ‘ extent of hills, towering in all the
 ‘ forms of Alpine wildness.’ The district of *Slate*, on the south-east, is a peninsula,

* Cuchullin, a hero celebrated in the poems of Ossian, is said to have resided at *Dunscath* in this island.

ninsula, terminating in a rugged promontory called the Point of Slate. There is, however, a considerable proportion of flat ground in this island, which affords good pasture.

After thunder showers, or great falls of rain, many streams are poured down from the mountains, and roar along their rocky channels, forming dreadful cataracts amid shattered rocks, interspersed with trees of birch and oak. The woods and mountains are the haunt of deer and a variety of game, and the rivulets are stored with salmon and other fishes.

Whole hills are composed of limestone. Marble, pebbles, rock-crystal, traces of lead-ore, and other minerals, are frequently met with. But the chief natural curiosity is the basaltic columns, resembling the Giant's causeway in Ireland, on the front of a high hill to the south of the house of *Taliskir*. Some of
the

the pillars which compose this curious natural colonnade, are above twenty feet high, having in general five angles. These are the most northerly basaltic yet discovered.

There is no town or village in this island worthy of being mentioned, except *Portree*. The inhabitants trade chiefly in black cattle, of which several thousands are annually exported. They also breed some small horses, and manufacture a good deal of kelp. The corn produced on the island is not always sufficient for their support.

In 1746, a cave on the east end of this island afforded shelter to the young adventurer and his faithful guide for two nights.

The south-east end of Skye is divided from Invernessshire (of which it is a part) by a very narrow strait called the Inner
D 2 Sound.

Sound. At the narrowest pass, where cattle are made to swim across, it is called the *Kyle* *.

To the north of this, in the channel that separates Skye from Rossshire, there is a narrow slip of islands, extending above twenty miles along the coast. Among these are the fertile isles of *Rona*, *Raasa*, and *Scalpa*. Several others of inferior size are scattered around in bays, on the north and west side.

To the south-west of the Isle of Skye, we find the verdant island of *Cannay*, and the lofty mountain which composes the island of *Rum*; and to the south, the little isles of *Egg* and *Muick*. These islands are very fertile; but from the ruggedness of their surface, they do not admit of general cultivation.

In

* This word seems to denote a ferry or short passage. Several places of this kind are known by the same name in Scotland.

In the island of Cannay, there are vast basaltic columns, which rise above each other to a great height, in many successive ranges, each separated from the other by a stratum of pebbly concretions, resembling plumb-pudding stone. On the east side of the same island, the tops of an immense number of these columns appear at low water, forming a Giant's causeway of surprising extent, and of which the surface is smooth and regular, like an ordinary paved street. Similar columnar rocks, and many stupendous caverns, are found in the rocky isle of Egg, and other adjacent islands.

South-west from the point of Ardnamurchan, in Argyleshire, at the distance of about three leagues, lie the small but rich isles of *Col* and *Tiree*. The latter is celebrated for its marble quarry, and for a handsome breed of little horses.

On the south-east of Col appear the fertile *Treshanish Isles*, four in number, interjected between the former and the Island of Mull.

To the south-east, and nearer to Mull, is the famous little isle of *Staffa*, about a mile long, and half a mile broad. The wonders of this place have been well described by Sir Joseph Banks. ‘The whole south-west end of this island, (says he) is supported by ranges of natural pillars, mostly above fifty feet high, standing in natural colonnades:—Some of the columns are above sixty feet in thickness, and are formed almost into the shape of those used in architecture. Compared to this, what are the cathedrals and palaces built by man! mere models or play-things, imitations as diminutive as his works will always be, when compared to those of nature.’

The

The cavern distinguished by the name of Fin-ma-coul, or *Fingal's* cave, extends two hundred and fifty feet under ground, and has for its entrance a natural arch, more than a hundred feet high. The same Gentleman, when describing it, expresses himself thus: 'The mind can hardly form an idea more magnificent than such a space, supported on each side by ranges of columns, and roofed by the bottoms of those which have been broken off in order to form it.' The cave is lighted from without, so that the furthest extremity may be seen, which gives it an appearance of magnificence that surpasses description. The island is every where supported by basaltic rocks and pillars, much exceeding in beauty and grandeur the Giant's causeway in Ireland.

The Isle of *Mull* is of considerable extent, being about twenty-five miles in length, and, in some places, of an equal breadth.

breadth. Being deeply indented with bays and creeks, there are here several good natural harbours. On the island there are no villages, except *Tabermorey*, near the northern point, where a fishing station has lately been erected. The soil is unfavourable for corn, being for most part rocky and barren. The mountains, however, abound with springs, and are covered with cattle, of which a great number are annually exported. These, with the fishings, and a considerable quantity of kelp, are the only articles of commerce. The ruins of several ancient castles are seen on this island.

In 1588, on this coast, a ship of the line belonging to the Spanish Armada, was blown up; some say, by accident, others, by the desperate resolution of a Scotchman.

Near the south-west point of Mull are several small islands; particularly the
noted

noted little isle of *Icolmkill*, formerly *Iona*, about three miles long, and one broad. The east side is mostly flat, and the west rude and rocky. On this island, which is very fertile, there is a mean village, and the ruins of an august Monastery and Cathedral, said to have been founded by St Columba, where there are seen three royal chapels, or rather cemeteries, in which several ancient kings of Scotland, Ireland and Norway, are buried. Two reasons seem to have given this and such like places the preference to others, as places of sepulture. In the earliest times, when the country abounded with wolves, an insular situation preserved the burial-ground from those rapacious animals; and in the days of superstition, people were particularly anxious to have their dust interred in consecrated ground. But it is said, that an ancient traditional prophecy, 'that this island should swim, 'when one tide should cover Ireland 'and green headed Ila,' determined so many

many crowned heads to prefer this to every other. In former times, this island was the place where the archives of Scotland, and many valuable old manuscripts were kept. It is said, that of these many were carried to the Scotch college at Douay in France, and it is hoped some of them may still be recovered. At present, this once celebrated seat of royalty and learning, is almost destitute of an instructor to teach the people the common duties of religion.

Between Mull and the coast of Argyleshire, in a spacious bay, lies the narrow but fertile island of *Lismore*, about nine miles in length. To the south-east of Mull, along the coast of Argyleshire, are several small isles; particularly that of *Eysdale*, the noted slate island, *Suil*, *Long*, *Shuna* and *Scarba*, which are very fertile spots, and have also good slate quarries.

Between

Between Scarba and the north point of Jura, is the dangerous whirlpool of *Coryvreckan*, so called from the name of a young Danish prince, who perished in this place. As the tide advances, this unfathomable gulf, of which the dreadful vortex extends above a mile in circuit, begins to boil up; and at full sea, its numerous eddies form watery pyramids, which rise high into the air, and bursting with the noise of thunder, whiten the subjacent waves with foam. Many smaller whirlpools and rapid currents are found in this neighbourhood; dangerous, however, only to those who are strangers to the coast.

Jura is about twenty miles in length, and seven in breadth. It is almost intersected on the west side by an arm of the sea, called *Loch Tarbet*. Some parts of the southern and western sides are fertile. There are only three mountains in the whole island; these are of a conic form,

form, of stupendous height, and are called the *Paps of Jura*. The rest of the island is flat, and generally covered with heath. A few wild roes are still seen in this island.

The fertile little islands of *Colonsa* and *Oronsa*, are situated about seven miles west from Jura. *Oronsa* is remarkable for the ruins of an ancient abbey, in which are seen many monumental statues, and some curious antique sculpture.

To the south-west of Jura lies the island of *Islay*. Its greatest length is twenty-five miles; its breadth eighteen. It is deeply indented on the south by the great bay, called *Loch-in-daal*, at the head of which formerly stood the village of *Killarow*. The principal village is now *Bowmore*, where there is a post-house, and where several neat buildings have

have lately been erected. This new town has a convenient harbour.

The face of the country is hilly, but not extremely high. Several mines are here wrought with considerable profit. The lead-ore is very rich. It produces seventeen hundred weight of lead each ton, and no less than forty-two ounces of silver. The copper-ore yields about one third of its weight in metal. Amid vast strata of iron-stone, there is here found in abundance, the peculiar sort called Emery. This substance pulverised is much used by artists in polishing stones and metals. Native quicksilver has also been met with in small quantities; but no discovery has been made from whence it came, nor has any native cinnabar been found in this country. Some small pieces of the mineral called Black-lead, have also been here observed; but the mass from which these have been detached remains undiscovered. In this place,

place, nature has provided immense stores of limestone, marl, coral and shell-sand, as it were on purpose to manure the soil, which is for most part very improvable. Much corn and flax is raised in this island, and a considerable number of cattle are annually exported.

In this and some of the neighbouring islands, multitudes of adders infest the heath. Many people still retain the vulgar error, of their stinging with their forked tongue, and prescribe many ridiculous cures for the wound they inflict.

On the north-west side of the island is the cave of *Sanegmore*, which is a grotto, divided into a number of far winding passages, sometimes opening into fine expanses; again closing for a long space into galleries, and forming a curious subterraneous labyrinth. Besides this there are many other caverns, the haunt of numerous

merous wild pigeons which lodge and breed in them. The goats that feed among the rocks are so wild, that people are obliged to shoot them like deer. Some vestiges of antiquity are seen on this island, particularly the remains of a circular dry stone building on the hill of *Loffet*, near the sound of Ilay. This hill is worthy of notice in other respects, as containing remarkable fine iron-ore and emery.

Toward the peninsula of Cantyre, is the small island *Giga*, from which the inhabitants annually export a considerable quantity of grain.

This island, with all those south of Skye, except Egg, are comprehended under Argyleshire.

B U T E.

B U T E.

THE island of Bute is situated in the Frith of Clyde. It is about fifteen miles in length, and in some parts above five in breadth. The country rises into small hills, and is in general very fertile.

The climate is so temperate, that snow is scarce ever known to lie on the island; but storms of thunder and rain from the west are very frequent.

On the east side of the island stands *Mount Stewart*, a handsome modern house, surrounded with wood, the family seat of the Earl of Bute.

Rothsay, the chief town, also stands on the east side, a little to the northward of *Mount Stewart*, and is happily situated
for

for trade, having an excellent pier and harbour. The circular walls of its castle in ruins, rising to view in the middle of the town, form a very picturesque view on entering the bay. This castle, which is of very high antiquity, was once a royal residence, and still, as of old, gives the title of Duke to the heir apparent of the crown of Scotland. The Gaelic language prevails in this island; but English is also pretty generally understood, even by the common people.

To the east are the little islands called *Greater* and *Lesser Cumbrays*. The former is remarkable for its excellent freestone quarries, and the ruins of an ancient cathedral, dedicated to St Columba. Upon the latter there is a lighthouse.

On the south-west side of Bute lies the beautiful little island of *Inchmar-*

nos *, about a mile long, having on the west side vast strata of coral and shells.

To the south-west of Bute also, beyond Inchmarnoe, lies the island of *Arran*. It is in length about twenty-three miles from north to south, and ten or twelve in breadth. The face of the country exhibits a vast series of rugged mountains, running in ridges across the whole island, amid which the summits of *Goatfield* and *Grianan-Athol* soar high above the rest. The sides of this island, sloping towards the shore, are more fertile.

Many cattle cover the hills, and goats browse among the rocks. The stags which used to abound here are now reduced to a very small number. The heath affords shelter to black game and grouse; and the presence of the partridge

* It derives its name of Marnoc's Isle, from a chapel in it dedicated to St Marnoc. The ruins of the chapel are still to be seen.

tridge is a proof of the advancement of agriculture. The streams are richly stored with salmon and other fishes. The climate, though severe, is esteemed salubrious; and many invalids annually resort to this place, to drink the whey of goats milk.

The shores of this and the neighbouring isles, are often visited by the basking shark, commonly called the fall-fish, or sun-fish. These creatures are sometimes of enormous bulk, being from thirty to forty feet in length. They commonly swim with their dorsal fins above water, and often seem torpid and insensible. Their strength, however, is very great, and when harpooned, they have been known to tow a vessel of seventy tons against a fresh gale. The oil obtained from the liver of one basking shark, is sometimes worth twenty or thirty pounds Sterling.

Iron-ore, spar, and a great variety of beautiful pebbles, are found among the rocks. A coal mine has also been worked in this island. Many spacious and astonishing caverns are seen on the coast, which have been the retreat, perhaps the habitation, of ancient heroes. Tradition still preserves here the memory of Fin-mac-coul, or Fingal; and it is certain that Robert Bruce retired to this island, and resided here during the time of his greatest distress. At present, these caverns frequently afford shelter to smugglers.

On the east part of the island is the village of *Kilbride*, and the excellent harbour of *Lamlash*, defended by a little isle called Holy Island, and surrounded by a beautiful semilunar bay.

In 1558, the English fleet under the Earl of Suffex, after ravaging the coast of Cantyre, landed on this bay, and desolated the country.

To

To the south of this island is the great insulated rock, called the Rock of *Ailfa* *. The circumference of its base is about two miles. It consists of a stupendous assemblage of precipitous cliffs, rising in wild series, forming a pyramidal mountain, nine hundred feet high, accessible only on the north-east. There are still seen upon it the ruins of a chapel; and higher up, those of a castle, with a square tower of three stories, each vaulted. There is a spring of fresh water within thirty yards of the castle. The lower parts are inhabited by goats and rabbits. The lofty summits are the refuge of innumerable birds. The gannet or solan-goose, the shag, and the gull, with various other sea-fowls, fill the air, and cover the water all around.

E 3

The

* This rock is the property of the Earl of Cassilis, and is rented at £. 33 *per annum*.

The isles of Arran and Inchmarnock, are comprehended under the county of Bute. This shire sends a member to Parliament alternately with Caithness, though that county lies at the distance of above one hundred and fifty miles to the north-east.

CAITH.

CAITHNESS.

THIS is the most northerly county on the continent of Scotland. It is bounded on the north by the Pentland Frith, which divides it from Orkney; on the south-east by the Ocean; and on the west by the county of Sutherland. Its form is triangular, though very irregular. Its greatest extent is about thirty-five miles from north to south, and twenty from east to west.

On the north coast there are several great promontories and capes, against the rugged cliffs of which the strong current of the tide breaks with astonishing fury. The most remarkable one is that of *Dunnet-head*. Between it and *Holburn-head* enters Dunnet Bay.

On this bay stands the borough of *Thurso*. The town is situated at the mouth of a river, to which it gives name. *Thurso* has a considerable trade, which has been greatly promoted by the patriotic Sir John Sinclair. Here is a manufacture of woollen and linen cloth, a considerable tannery and a bleachfield. The mouth of the river affords good salmon-fishing, and the cod-fishery employs many hands.

From this town to *Loch Watten*, the ground is flat and well fitted for cultivation. A few miles up the river *Thurso* stands *Broadwall* or *Braal* castle, an ancient structure. In this low tract some trees have been planted; but the country in general is almost destitute of wood.

Returning to the coast we find the castles of *Ratter* and *Mey*; the first was a feat of the late Earl of Caithness; the latter is occupied by the present Earl.

Beyond

Beyond the great promontory stretching to the north from the castle of Mey, are three high insulated rocks, called by seamen the merry *Men of Mey*, from the incessant dashing of the waves around them, which gives them the appearance of dancing.

A little to the north-east from these rocks lies the small isle of *Stroma*, once used as a burying place by the inhabitants of several of the neighbouring islands. Natural mummies, or the entire uncorrupted bodies of persons who had been dead sixty years, or upwards, were formerly met with in caverns on this island.

Duncan's bay, or *Dung's bay-head*, is a great promontory which forms the north-eastern point of Great Britain. Here are still seen the remains of the noted *John-o-Groat's house*, reckoned the most northerly dwelling in the kingdom.

On

On the eastern coast we meet with several ancient buildings. The first is *Bucholie's*, or *Buckle's* castle, standing on a narrow rock, projecting into the sea. Near it the cliffs are lofty, and hollowed quite through into magnificent arches. Through these the sea rushes with great noise and impetuosity. Next we find the house and castle of *Keiss*, situated on the side of *Sinclair's Bay*. From *Wester Loch* descends the river *Rice*, which falls into this bay. Both the lake and the river are well stored with excellent trout. Between *Rice* and the Tower of *Akerhill* the links were once a morass; but they are now covered with sand. Peats are dug, to this day, ten feet under the sand.

Near the promontory of *Noss-head* are the ruinous castles of *Sinclair* and *Gir-nigo*, pitched on the summits of two adjacent rocks, between which, for the mutual security of their jealous owners, there had been anciently a drawbridge.

At

At the village of *Staxigo*, the herring and cod-fishing has, of late, been carried on with great success. Red herrings are here prepared in considerable quantities for exportation.

The borough of *Wick* is situated at the mouth of a small river that bears its name. The chief trade of this town depends on the cod and herring-fishery. It suffers great inconvenience from the scarcity of fuel.

Near *Oldwick* castle a copper-mine was once worked. In this neighbourhood is the *Stack of Hempriggs*, a vast arched rock, surrounded by the sea, through which boats can pass. Immense numbers of sea-fowls lodge in this rock.

Near the house of *Ulbster*, many great caverns on the shore, extend several hundred yards under ground. Into these the seal-hunters enter in small boats,
with

with lighted torches, and then making a noise, alarm the animals, which they kill with clubs as they attempt to pass.

At the castle of *Berridale*, in a river of that name, there is an excellent salmon fishing.

The whole south-west part of the shire is occupied by great mountains, the abode of roes, and various sorts of game. The rocky summits give shelter to the eagle, and other birds of prey; and the lakes are often visited by the swan, and numerous water-fowls. A vast ridge of hills forms the south-western boundary of the shire, terminating in a great promontory called the *Ord of Caithness*. Along the side of this steep hill, there is cut a winding road, the only entrance into Caithness from the south, impending, as it were, above the sea.

The

The climate of Caithness is good ; and the soil around the coast capable of great improvement. Shell-sand and sea-weed for manure are found in abundance. Many cattle are bred in the high grounds, and much kelp is made on the shores.

The chief exports from Caithness are beef, meal and bear, yarn, butter, cheese, skins, feathers and kelp.

Though English is, for most part, spoken by those who live on the coast, yet in the high parts of the country the Gaelic prevails.

In this county the women were formerly subjected to the most humiliating drudgery, and often treated by the men, their lazy and indolent masters, as animals of burden ; it being no unusual thing, thirty or forty years ago, here to see a troop of those ill-fated females trudging to the fields loaded with the dung-

dung-basket, or in harvest, returning home groaning under a burden of sheaves. This indignant treatment of the women, which was the opprobrium of the county, is now entirely abolished; and, at present, the farmers in Caithness employ horses, carts, and labourers, in the usual manner.

This neighbourhood, in remote ages, was the theatre of perpetual war; and many of the ancient castles scattered over the country have been the scene of treachery, murder and rapine. A recital of such horrid deeds would be foreign to our present purpose. Happily the exemplary candour and unbounded hospitality of the gentlemen here, now form a pleasing contrast with ancient barbarity.

SUTHER.

SUTHERLAND.

THIS shire is bounded on the north by the sea; on the east by Caithness and the Frith of Dornoch; on the south by Ross-shire; and on the west by the channel called the Minch. Being thus washed on three sides by the sea, its figure is rendered extremely irregular, by numerous deep indentations and large projections; yet straight lines, joining its five extreme points, would not be very unequal. Its greatest extent from east to west is about fifty miles; and from north to south somewhat more.

Those parts of the country denominated Forests, were anciently covered with wood. The most considerable are *Tarf*, and *Lord Rae's Forest*, in the district of *Diurness* and *Dirrymuir Forest*. These
are

are now destitute of trees, presenting to view dreary and trackless deserts, and bleak mountains, where herds of wild roes roam at large among the deep heath. On this coast appears the vast promontory of *Cape Wrath*, which forms the north-west point of Britain. It is the dread of mariners; for against its rugged and lofty cliffs, the rapid tide bursts with incredible fury.

The river *Diurness*, which rises on the southern mountains, terminates in a great inlet of the sea called the *Kyle*, where there is an excellent fishing. On the shore is the noted cavern of *Smow*, running so far under ground, that its extremity, it is said, could never be explored.

Loch Eribol is an arm, or inlet of the sea, capable of affording a safe retreat to the largest vessels. It receives several streams, particularly that which flows from the great lake called *Loch Hope*.

On

On the river *Strathmore*, that falls into Loch Hope, are the ruins of *Dun Dornadilla*, a curious ancient building or fort.

The village of *Tongue*, near which is the seat of the family of REAY, is situated on an arm of the sea, called the Kyle of Tongue, in which several small islands are scattered. It is surrounded by many deep morasses, lakes and rivers, where the sportsman may find an inexhaustible fund of amusement.

The district of *Strathnaver* comprehends the whole north-east part of this shire. It takes its name from the river *Naver*, which descends from a spacious lake near the centre of the county, and, after passing several small villages, falls into the sea at *Farr*, where there is an excellent salmon fishing.

The river *Strath* passes through a plain and fertile country, and flows into

an extensive bay, covered by a large promontory, to both of which it gives its name.

Hollowdale and several smaller streams descend from the mountains bordering on Caithness. From the south side of the same mountains, springs the river *Helmsdale*, which, rolling over its rocky bottom toward the Ord of Caithness, becomes, at that place, deep, rapid and dangerous, there being no bridge over the river. At its mouth there is a good salmon fishery.

Proceeding along the coast to the south, the country is fertile and populous. At *Brora* there is a coal-mine, which was lately worked, and used in the manufacture of salt. This coal, however, cannot be exported or carried to a distance, as it takes fire on being exposed to the air. Above *Brora*, the river which issues from a beautiful lake of the same name,
forms

forms several fine cascades. The limestone quarry above this place is an interesting fund of speculation; the variety of shells contained in the heart of the stone is equally surprising and beautiful. Many precipices on the banks of the river are also full of shells. There are seen near this river, the remains of several of those curious circular towers, of which the use and origin have still baffled the researches of the antiquary.

Near Brora is *Dunrobin Castle*, the seat of the family of Sutherland. It is beautifully situated on an eminence, near the sea, surrounded by rich and cultivated fields, and embellished with hanging woods and winding rivulets. On the south side of an arm of the sea called *Fleet Loch* is *Skelbo*, a seat of Lord Duffus.

At *Embo*, a village in this neighbourhood, an unhappy creature was burned

in 1727, for the imaginary crime of witchcraft; the last instance of these frantic executions in Scotland.

Dornoch, the county-town, is situated at the entrance of a noble frith of the same name. This town, though now a small place, and half in ruins, was once the residence of the Bishops of Caithness. The cathedral, like most others, was in form of a cross, and is now a ruin, except a part which is the present parish church.

At *Creech*, a little to the west of *Dornoch*, there is an extensive wood of oak and fir.

Along the Frith of *Dornoch*, the country is populous and well cultivated; but in the mountainous parts there are few inhabitants, and no villages. Amid the mountains is the great lake called *Loch Shin*, about eighteen miles long, from which a rapid stream descends to the Frith

Frith of Dornoch. About eight or nine miles above Dornoch ferry, at *Invershin*, there is a fine water-fall, and salmon-leap, as it is called, where those fish that fail in the leap are frequently caught in a basket placed on purpose below, where the water shoots over the rock in a great body. Sturgeons are frequently found in this river.

To the west, the district of *Affynt* exhibits an assemblage of shattered mountains, as it were heaped on each other, and seemingly torn and convulsed in a manner truly tremendous. This region of sterility, however, abounds with limestone and fine marble. Toward the rugged peninsula of *Affynt Point* are several vast conic hills, the highest of which is distinguished by the name of the *Sugar Loaf*.

On the west coast are many creeks and inlets of the sea, improperly called

F 3 Lochs.

Lochs. The most remarkable are *Scowie*, near the village of *Glendue*; *Loch Badcaal*, near *Eddrachilles*; and to the north, *Loch Laxford* and *Inchard*. All these abound with fish.

ROSS.

R O S S.

THIS is an extensive shire, stretching from Sea to Sea. It is bounded on the north by Sutherland and the Frith of Dornoch; on the east by the Murray Frith; on the south by Invernessshire; and on the west by the Minch. It extends almost sixty miles from north to south, and above seventy from east to west.

The north-west part of this county, bordering on Assynt, is a desolate and dreary region. Nothing is here seen, far as the eye can reach, but vast piles of rocky mountains, with summits broken, ferrated, and spiring into every terrific form; with snowy glaciers lodged in the deep shaded apertures. But amid these, the most striking object is an en-

tire mountain of whitish marble, so extensive, smooth, glossy and even, as to appear like an enormous sheet of ice.

The country to the east is enriched by a prospect of woods, lakes and rivers; and on the Frith of Dornoch there are several villages.

On the south bank of the Frith is situated the borough of *Tain*, remarkable for a large square tower, decorated with five spires. The collegiate church of this place was founded in 1481; and the whole building remains still pretty entire.

The seat of Lord Ankerville, called *Tarlogie*, in this neighbourhood, is surrounded with rich fields and plantations. To the south-west of Tain lies *Balnagowan*, the family-seat of the brave Sir John Lockhart Ross.

On

On the east of Tain a great peninsula projects into the sea, terminating in a promontory called *Tarbatness*.

Dingwall is a royal borough. Some linen-yarn is here manufactured; and there is a lint-mill in the neighbourhood. The town is seated on the head of the *Frith of Cromarty*. This great arm of the sea penetrates above thirty miles into the country. Its entrance is formed by two huge rocky promontories called the *Sutters*, or *Shooters* of Cromarty,

—————
Quorum sub vertice late
Æquora tuta silent,

Within this strait the frith expands into a beautiful and capacious bay, encompassed by low land, which rises gradually backward into hills. It is impossible to imagine a finer harbour. In this noble basin the whole British Navy might find safe mooring; and it well merits the name sometimes given it, of *Portus Salutis*.

On

On the summit of a hill, not far from Dingwall, is a remarkable ancient fort, called *Knockfarriol*. The stones that compose this building, appear to have been subjected to the action of fire, and are in many parts entirely vitrified. Similar forts are seen in different places around the country.

In this neighbourhood is *Castle Braan*, the seat of the family of Seaforth, surrounded with ancient wood, and screened by lofty mountains.

To the east, on the other side of the river Conan, is the village of *Fairntosh*, noted for excellent malt spirits. The proprietor of this place long possessed the privilege of distilling malt spirits free of duty; but this immunity was lately purchased by Government at a considerable price. On the coast of the *Murray Frith*, nearly opposite to Fort George, is the decayed borough of *Fortrose*. The
Frith

Frith is, at this place, very narrow, being only about a mile broad. It expands toward the south, and becomes again very strait near Inverness, where it bends to the west, and forms a noble estuary with the river *Bewley*, or *Beaulieu*, which, at this place, is the southern boundary of Rosshire*. At the mouth of this river is the ferry of *Kissock*; near which there is a good salmon fishery.

The rivers *Conan* and *Orran* descend from the west, and uniting their streams, meet the sea near Dingwall. Near this place is seen the lofty mountain *Benwe-wish*, caped with perpetual snow. Proceeding westward through *Fainish Forest*, the country is mountainous and wild for above thirty miles.

Beyond

* The part of Rosshire, north-east of *Bewly*, is called the Black Isle. Bewly river was in ancient times, and still is, by the Highlanders, called *Farrar*, and from it the Murray Frith was anciently named *Fretum Vararis*.

Beyond these mountains, on the west coast, is seen the great lake and arm of the sea called *Loch Broom*.

This extensive salt water lake has long been noted for herrings of peculiar excellence, and is esteemed one of the best fishing stations on the coast. Here appears the newly erected village of *Ullapool*.

The great bay at the entrance of Loch Broom, called *Loch More*, is sprinkled with small rocky islands, named *Summer isles*.

The herrings commonly arrive here in July, though the period of their arrival is by no means certain. Such incredible quantities of herrings have at some times crowded into this and other inlets and creeks on the western coast of Scotland, that, at low water, the whole beach, for several miles, has been covered to a considerable

considerable depth, by those left by the tide.

The herring shoals are followed by innumerable sea fowls. These birds catch up the fish, while they swim on the surface: But the cod-fish, the haddock, and the dog-fish, the porpoise and whale are their more potent and assiduous persecutors. The whales deliberately open their great mouths, and devour them by thousands. These monsters, however, keep on the outside of the column; for the phalanx of herrings is so thick as to be impenetrable to those unwieldy animals.

A long slip of land divides Loch Broom from *Loch Beg*, *Little Loch Broom* and *Loch Groinard*, which three last are only different parts of the same inlet of the sea.

Southward from these, about seven miles, lies the great fresh water lake called

led *Loch Maree*. It is about eighteen miles long, and, at some parts, four broad. Many small islands are scattered over its whole extent. It abounds with salmon, charr and large trout.

Gairloch is a large bay, which gives name to a tract of land near it. In this bay the fishing of cod and other white fish is very considerable.

Both this district and that of *Applecrofs* are populous, and abound in pasture. The soil near the shore and in the valleys is fertile; but the back ground is uncommonly mountainous and wild.

Between *Gairloch* and *Applecrofs* *Loch Terridon* spreads its waters, dividing into many creeks and bays.

Between *Loch Garron* and *Loch Duich* is the peninsula of *Kintail*, which forms the

the south-west corner of the county. In the arm of the sea called *Loch Kiffern*, and in all the inlets on this coast, there is excellent fishing.

The hills of this county feed many small cattle and sheep and goats. The woods and thickets are the resort of stags and roes, and the haunt of the singularly beautiful bird called the Cock of the wood, or Capercaillie. This bird is almost equal in size to a domestic turkey, and of a bright azure colour. On the summits of the high and rocky mountains, is also found the Ptarmigan, a simple bird, nearly of the size of a partridge, that often owes its safety to its gray colour, exactly resembling the stones among which it lodges. In winter, however, its colour is changed to a pure white, like the snow, in which it then often buries itself.

The

The inhabitants of the western and mountainous parts of this county, and of Sutherland, use the Gaelic language; but on the eastern coast, English is spoken, in general, though the Gaelic is also understood.

CROMARTY.

CROMARTY.

THIS small shire comprehends part of a peninsula on the south side of the Frith to which it gives name. On the south and the west, it is bounded by Ross-shire. Its length, from east to west, is about twelve miles; its greatest breadth about three.

The country is fertile and well cultivated: But it is now almost destitute of old trees; though, in the days of James V. it was a forest, and afforded shelter to many wolves. The patriotic proprietor of the estate of Cromarty is, however, now making many improvements; of these some very extensive plantations are not the least important.

G

The

The borough of *Cromarty* has a manufacture of coarse cloth, and a considerable coasting-trade in corn, thread, yarn, fish and skins of various sorts. Of this trade, the neighbouring villages of *Kirk-michael*, *Rosalis* and *Urquhart* partake, being all seated on the frith.

Cromarty sends a member to Parliament alternately with

N A I R N E.

THIS small county is indented, as it were, between Inverness and Murray shires; having the Murray Frith on the north. It extends about fifteen miles from north to south, and about twelve from east to west.

In

In this shire there are several beautiful streams and lakes, abounding with fish, and adorned with wood. The house of *Calder* stands on the river Nairne. Strangers are here shown the bed in which, tradition says, Duncan was murdered by Macbeth. The draw-bridge, too, which is entire, exhibits a curious specimen of antique architecture. In the extensive wood of Calder are seen many venerable oaks.

The borough of *Nairne* has but little trade. Its exports are some fish, corn, cattle, yarn, and a few other articles.

The labour of the husbandman in this county is chiefly carried on by oxen. The soil being rocky, oxen are found more patient of the frequent interruption in plowing it than horses. It is, however, rich, and in general well cultivated.

I N V E R N E S S.

THIS is the most extensive shire in Scotland. It is bounded on the north by Rossshire; on the east by Nairne, Murray and Aberdeen shires; on the south by Perth and Argyle shires; and on the west by the Atlantic Ocean. Its extent from north to south is above fifty miles; from east to west about eighty. Its north-east corner, detached from the rest of the county, runs down along both sides of the river Spey in a narrow slip, intersected between Murray and Banff shires.

The northern part of this county is very mountainous and barren. In the district of *Glenelg* are seen the ruins of several ancient circular buildings, similar to those

those, in the Western Isles, Sutherland and Ross shires, whether Danish forts, Druid temples, or whatever they have been. These buildings, in their outward appearance, are round, and tapering like glass-houses. In the heart of the wall, which is perpendicular within, there are horizontal galleries going quite round, and connected by stairs. These ascend toward the top, which is open. They are all built of stone, without lime or mortar of any kind. They have no opening outward, except the doors and the top; but there are several in the inside, as windows to the galleries. Some of these structures stand low, with higher ground near them: It is therefore very unlikely that they should ever have been intended for watch-towers, as some have supposed. From *Bernera Barracks*, in this district, proceeds the military road to Inverness. To the north, through the marshy plain called *Strathglass*, flows the

river *Glas*, which unites its stream with that of Bewley, on the border of Ross-shire. Here the woody mountains are the haunt of stags and roes. The capercailzie is also sometimes seen among the lofty pines; the heath is possessed by black game and grouse; and the lofty summits by ptarmigans and Alpine hares. The latter of these animals are smaller than common hares; of a bluish gray colour in summer, which changes, in winter, to a snowy whiteness.

This county is nearly divided by water; and when the increasing commerce of the country shall render it advisable, it appears from a late survey of an eminent engineer, that by means of a canal uniting Loch Ness, Loch Oich, Loch Lochy and Loch Eil, a communication might be readily opened here between the two seas. In this track, Fort George, Fort Augustus and Fort William, form what

is

is called the chain of Forts across the island.

Fort George is a strong and regular fortress, having several handsome streets of barracks. It is situated on the Point of Ardersier, a peninsula running into the Murray Frith, and completely commands the entrance to the harbour of Inverness.

To the south-east of this is the village of *Campbelton*; and nearer Inverness the wide heath called *Culloden Moor*, noted for the decisive victory here obtained in 1746, by the Duke of Cumberland.

Inverness is a royal borough, pleasantly situated on the southern banks of the river Ness, and overlooking the Murray Frith. It has a safe and convenient harbour, and a good deal of shipping. Several large buildings have been erected on the north side of the

G 4

town,

town, in which a considerable manufacture of ropes and canvas is carried on. Inverness is a populous and flourishing town, being the chief market to a wide tract of country around. It has several good schools; and it is now intended to erect an Academy here, on an extensive scale. To raise a fund for this benevolent purpose, many patriotic gentlemen have contributed with much liberality.

On an eminence above the town, are seen the ruins of the old castle of Inverness. It was demolished by the Highlanders in 1746. Over the river Ness, there is a handsome bridge of seven arches. The salmon fishery in this river, which is very considerable, is let to London fishmongers.

The soil about Inverness is fertile and well cultivated; but the want of rain, in

in this part of the country, so near the west coast, where there is always superabundance, seems remarkable. An ingenious writer observes, 'That the mountains on the west, from which the rain generally comes, are so strangely formed, and heaped up to the sky in so many perpendicular points, that they naturally occasion eddies around them, and draw the wind in various directions, making as it were a kind of vortex, so that the clouds cannot escape them.'

A little to the west of Inverness is seen the remarkable vitrified fort called *Craig Phadrick*. The stones which compose its walls, appear to have been partly melted by fire.

The river Ness is the outlet of the great lake called *Loch Ness*. This beautiful lake is twenty-two miles in length, and, for the most part, one in breadth.

It

It is skreened on the north-west by the lofty mountains of *Urquhart* and *Meal-fourvony*, and bordered with coppices of birch and oak. The adjacent hills are adorned with many extensive forests of pine; which afford shelter to the cattle, and are the retreat of stags and deer. There is much cultivation and improvement on the banks of Loch Ness; and the pasture grounds in the neighbouring valleys are excellent. On the south-east side of the lake, near the inn called *General's Hut*, there is another vitrified fort resembling Craig Phadrick, on a conical hill, named *Dunjardel**.

From

* These ancient forts have been accurately described by ALEXANDER FRASER-TYTLER, Esq; F. R. S. Edin. in the second volume of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. That gentleman is of opinion, that fire has not been employed to cement the stones in building these forts, as some have imagined, but that they have acquired a vitrified appearance from their having been demolished by fire.

From the south, the river *Fyers* descends toward this lake. Over this river there is built a stupendous bridge, on two opposite rocks; the top of the arch is above a hundred feet from the level of the water. A little below the bridge is the celebrated *Fall of Fyers*, where a great body of water darts through a narrow gap between two rocks, then falls over a vast precipice into the bottom of the chasm, where the foam rises and fills the air like a great cloud of smoke.

Fort Augustus, a small fortress consisting of four bastions, is situated on a plain at the head of Loch Ness, between the rivers *Tarff* and *Oich*. Over the latter of these is built a handsome bridge of three arches.

Loch Oich is a narrow lake, stretching about four miles from east to west. It is adorned with some small wooded islands,

islands, and is surrounded with ancient trees. Near this is the family-seat of *Glengary*, surrounded by natural woods of full grown fir, which extend nine or ten miles along the banks of the river *Gary*. Mr Macdonald, the proprietor, has here erected a saw-mill, for reducing the logs of timber into planks. The waters of *Loch Oich* flow through *Loch Ness* into the eastern sea.

Loch Lochy transmits its waters in an opposite direction, this being the highest part of the vast flat tract that here stretches from sea to sea. This extensive lake is above ten miles in length, and from one to two in breadth. From the west, the waters of *Loch Arke* descend into this lake. Out of it runs the river *Lochy*, which, about a mile below its issue from the lake, receives the *Spean*, a considerable river, over which there is a magnificent bridge, built by General Wade, about two miles above

above the place where it falls into the Lochy. These united streams traversing the plains of *Lochaber*, after a course of five or six miles, fall into Loch Eil.

A few miles to the south-east of Loch Lochy is *Glenroy*, or King's Vale. The north-east end of this valley opens on Loch Spey. A small river passes along the bottom of the vale, accompanied by a modern road. On the declivity of the mountains, about a mile from the river, on either hand, are seen several parallel roads of great antiquity. On the north-west side, five of these roads run parallel and close by each other. On the opposite side are three other roads exactly similar. These roads are thirty feet broad, all perfectly horizontal, and extend eight or nine miles in length. Their destination or use has baffled the conjectures of antiquaries.

Fort

Fort William and the village of *Maryburgh* are situated on the narrow arm of the sea, called *Loch Eil*, where it bends toward the north-west. At its western extremity, a very short canal, not exceeding a mile in length, would connect it with *Loch Shiel*. *Fort William* is of a triangular form, having two bastions. In the neighbourhood appears the ancient castle of *Inverlochy*, adorned with four large turrets. This edifice was anciently a seat of the kings of Scotland. Tradition says, that a city once stood in this place; and that *Achaius*, who, in 792, concluded a treaty with *Charlemagne*, resided here. Not far from this soars the pointed summit of *Bennevis*, capped with snow. This mountain, which is esteemed the highest in Britain, rises more than four thousand three hundred feet above the level of the sea.

In the districts of *Moydart*, *Arasaick*, *Morer* and *Knoydart*, there are numerous

rous bays and creeks, along the coast, many of which might be excellent fishing stations.

It is very remarkable, that most of the great lakes in this country, notwithstanding the coldness of the climate, are seldom or never known to freeze; much less are the arms of the sea, even in the most northern parts of Scotland, subject to congelation, in the hardest seasons; while the Texel, and many bays and great rivers in Holland and Germany are covered with ice.

The southern part of this shire is very mountainous. This lofty region is supposed to be the most elevated ground in Scotland. From its numerous lakes, many streams descend toward both seas. In the extensive district called *Badenoch*, lies *Loch Spey*, the source of the great river *Spey*, which proceeding eastward, with an increasing stream, enters the
shire

shire of Murray at *Rothenmurchus*, after having expanded into a fine lake. Not far from this is seen the lofty stop of *Cairngorm*, patched with snow. This mountain is celebrated for its beautiful rock-crystals of various tints. These are much esteemed by lapidaries; and some of them, having the lustre of fine gems, bring a very high price.

In this country, limestone, iron-ore, and some traces of different minerals are found; but no mines have yet been worked with much success.

The extensive plains which surround the lakes, are, in general, fertile; and the high grounds feed many sheep and black cattle, the rearing and selling of which is the chief trade of the inhabitants.

By the present spirited exertions of the gentlemen in this populous county, the

the commerce and the industry of the inhabitants have of late been greatly increased. To facilitate the communication with other parts, application has been made to Parliament, for leave to levy a tax on the proprietors of land, for improving the roads and erecting bridges in this extensive shire.

The commonalty in the high parts of the country, and on the western shore, speak Gaelic; but the people of fashion in Inverness, and its vicinity, use the English language, and pronounce it with such propriety, that their accent attracted the notice and the praise of a celebrated philologist, who visited this country several years ago.

H MUR-

M U R R A Y.

THE shire of Murray is sometimes called *Elgin*, from the name of its chief town. It is bounded on the north-west by the county of Nairne and the Murray Frith; on the east by Banffshire; on the south and west by Invernesshire. Its form is irregular, being broken in the centre by a detached part of Invernesshire, of about thirty miles in circuit. It also contains a detached portion of Nairnshire. Its length from east to west is about fifty miles; its extent along the coast about twenty.

Upon entering this county from the west, two objects attract particular notice; the forest and castle of *Tarnaway*, the ancient residence of the Earls of Murray, to whom it still belongs. This
castle

castle is famous for its spacious hall, called Randolph's Hall, from its founder Earl Randolph, one of the great supporters of Robert Bruce. It is timbered at top like Westminster-hall. In the days of the Regent Murray, it might have vied in splendour and magnificence with any feat of royalty.

The forest, extending along the side of a hill, facing the east, with the river Findhorn rolling along at its bottom, is a very great ornament to the country.

To the left, along the shore of the Murray Frith, there are several hills of loose sand. This sand being easily put in motion by the wind, has overwhelmed a great tract of the adjacent plain, so that an estate which was rented a century ago at three hundred pounds a-year, is now a waste of sand, with here and there the top-branch of a tree, or a chimney-top appearing above it, and mark-

ing the places where the principal houses and orchards are thus irretrievably lost.

The borough of *Forres* is a neat small town, pleasantly situated on a rising ground, at the foot of some little hills. It contains several handsome houses, and manufactures some linen and sewing thread. It stands close by a small river, about two miles to the east of the river Findhorn. A little to the north-east, near the road, is a remarkable column, called *King Seven's*, or *Sweno's* stone, above twenty feet high, and three feet broad, covered on both sides with antique sculpture. It is said to have been erected in memory of a victory obtained over the Danes, just before their final retreat from Scotland in 1008.

About two miles further to the north-east stood the Abbey of *Kinloss*, some parts of whose stately ruins still remain.

The

The river *Findborn*, already mentioned, descending from the south-west, after a course of about fifty miles through Invernesshire, Nairne, and the north-west corner of this county, here forms a beautiful bay, to which it gives name.

Findborn stands on a point at the mouth of the bay. It is a considerable fishing town, having a commodious station for ships, and a tolerable harbour.

About four miles distant, on a point of land, running out at *Brugbhead*, are seen the remains of a strong Danish fort, which was long held as a place of arms, and a key for the entrance of those ruthless freebooters into this fertile county.

Elgin * the county-town, is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river *Loch*.
H 3 *bie.*

* The Celtic word *Elgin*, answers to the French *Belle ville*.

See. There are here many large old buildings, erected over piazzas. The cathedral was founded by Andrew, Dean of Murray, in 1224. It was one of the noblest Gothic edifices in Scotland. Its superb ruins are a sufficient proof of its former magnificence.

About four miles distant to the south-west, in a fine plain, are the ruins of *Pluscardine Priory*.

A little to the east of Elgin is the castle of *Spynie*, in former times the residence of the Bishop of Murray. The once spacious lake in its vicinity, is now almost drained, and converted into corn and pasture ground. Near this lake stood the Priory of *Urquhart*, founded by David I. but no vestiges of it now appear.

The great and rapid river *Spey* divides this county to the south-east, from

from Banffshire, for more than twenty miles. This river, which, as already noticed, descends from a lake in Invernessshire, after receiving numerous streams, in a course of above seventy miles, empties itself into the sea at the village of *Speymouth*. There are here saw-mills, and docks for building boats and small vessels. From this place immense quantities of salmon are sent to London.

On the banks of the Spey are *Castle Grant*, and the villages of *Grantown* and *Cromdale*, all belonging to Invernessshire. Four miles above *Castle Grant*, is an extensive wood of firs, some of them of a size sufficient to form masts for the largest vessels. The trees are floated down the Spey in great quantities, when the river is swelled by rains. The York-buildings company had, in this neighbourhood, a great iron-work; but it is now given up. The patriotic proprie-

tor of the estate of Grant *, has, however, introduced some branches of manufacture into the village of Granton, and endeavours to promote agriculture, by bestowing rewards on industry, and setting a good example to his tenants. The extensive valley called *Strathspey*, is noted for giving name to a very striking and popular species of Scottish music. In this fertile tract of country, we meet with Tullochgorum, Rothiemurchus, and several other places celebrated in song.

Through the western point of the shire, amid forests of ancient trees, flows the river *Dulnain*, which falls into the Spey near *Abernethy*. This village gives name to a river that descends from the south-west.

This shire, along the coast, is, in general, a level country; and it has been observed, that there falls less rain in the flat

* Sir JAMES GRANT.

flat part of this county, than in any other tract of equal extent in Scotland. The soil is in general rich, and bears wheat, barley, oats and flax. Backward, at a distance from the shore, it rises toward the south-west into very high grounds, which, however, afford excellent pasture, and abound with game of various kinds.

B A N F F.

B A N F F.

THIS shire is bounded on the north by the Murray Frith; on the south-east by the river Deveron, and Aberdeenshire; and on the north-west by the river Spey and Murrayshire. Its form resembles that of a wedge; and it appears as if indented between the counties of Murray and Aberdeen. Its greatest length from north-east to south-west is about fifty miles; and its extent along the coast almost thirty, including a narrow slip of land, cut off from Aberdeenshire.

On a plain near the Spey, at the north-west angle of the county is *Gordon Castle*, and the town of *Fochabers*. The family-seat of the Duke of Gordon is a princely structure, now greatly modernized. It is surrounded by ancient trees, and

and the pleasure-grounds are in an elegant taste. The adjacent hills are covered with vast plantations of fir and other trees. In the neighbouring town, many young girls are employed in spinning; and in the manufactory of sewing thread, under the patronage of her Grace the Dutchess of Gordon.

About twelve miles north-east stands *Cullen-house*, the family-seat of the Earl of Findlater, situated on the edge of a deep glen, full of very large trees. Over this glen is thrown a great arch, more than eighty feet wide.

Cullen is a royal borough, though one of the smallest in Scotland. It stands about a mile from the shore, close by *Cullen-house*. Near it are seen three lofty spiring rocks, formed of flinty masses, called the three *Kings of Cullen*. In this neighbourhood are many remarkable Cairns or Barrows, the tombs of ancient warriors.

warriors. Near the centre of these heaps of stones there is often found a rude coffin, composed of long flat stones, inclosing a complete human skeleton, and together with it a deer's horn, the symbol of the favourite amusement of the hero there interred. Many such cairns are observed in different parts of Scotland.

Portfoy is a handsome sea port. It sends out several fishing and trading vessels. There is here a snuff manufactory, and a considerable trade in sewing thread. In the neighbourhood is a stratum of marble, of a dark greenish colour, in which, it is said, the curious substance called Asbestos, or Earth-flax, has been found. From the asbestos a sort of incombustible cloth is made, which is purified by throwing it into the fire.

Banff, the county-town, is pleasantly situated near the coast, on the declivity
of

of a hill, facing the east. It has several good streets, and the town-house is adorned with a handsome spire. There is here a brewery, a manufacture of thread, and another of stockings worked on frames. It is usual for children here to attend the manufactory and the school alternately at stated hours; so that industry and education are united, in a manner worthy of imitation. *Banff-castle*, as it is called, a jointure-house of the Findlater family, stands, with its gardens and pleasure-grounds, nearly in the middle of the town. The harbour is liable to be choked up by shifting sands at the mouth of the river Deveron. It is, however, defended by a well built neat pier, and protected by a small battery erected during last war. Considerable quantities of salmon are exported from this place.

Close by the town, at the foot of the hill, stands the elegant seat of Earl Fife,
called

called *Duff-house*, built on an extensive lawn, around which the Deveron winds beautifully. It is adorned with shrubberies and plantations of forest trees in the modern taste. Over the Deveron there is a handsome bridge of seven arches, erected by Government, at the foot of the garden belonging to *Duff-house*.

About a mile from Banff is *Macduff*, a farming and fishing town, belonging wholly to Earl Fife. His Lordship, in 1783, procured a charter for it, with the privilege of chusing its own magistrates; and was also at the expence of forming a harbour, and building a pier.

From this place, a part of this county stretches about twelve miles eastward along the shore, forming a sort of triangle, widest toward the east. Here stand *Gardenstone* and *Troup*, near the promontory of

of Trouphead, where the shore is remarkably bold and rocky.

Along the winding course of the river *Deveron*, which rises among the hills, on the south side of the county, there is much cultivation, especially near the coast. Its banks are beautifully covered with wood.

The mountainous tract between *Strath-deveron* and the *Spey*, is chiefly employed in pasturage, and the country is not populous.

In the south-west angle of the county rises the river *Aven* or *Aan*, which passes the village of *Kirkmichael*, and dividing part of *Invernesshire* from *Banffshire*, falls into the *Spey* at *Inveraan*.

A B E R D E E N.

THIS county is bounded on the north-west by Banffshire and the river Deveron; on the north and north-east by the German Ocean; on the south by Kincardine, Angus and Perth shires; and on the west by Invernesshire. Its extent from north-east to south-west is about eighty miles; its breadth scarce exceeds thirty.

The north-east part of this shire, extending to the river Ythan, is called *Buchan*. In the high parts of the country there is much excellent pasture; and the level tract called *Strathbogie*, contains many well cultivated fields. In this district is the village and castle of *Huntly*, which gives the title of Marquis to the eldest son of the family of Gordon. To the

the north-east are the villages of *New* and *Old Deer*. At the latter is seen the ruin of an ancient abbey. It is also noted for a great annual fair for cattle. Toward the coast is the village of *Strichen*, and some other small towns. The quantity of yarn and linen cloth manufactured in this part of the country, affords an unequivocal proof of the industry of the inhabitants.

Frazerburgh, a small but pleasant town, built by Sir Alexander Frazer of Philorth, in 1600, is situated close by the promontory called *Kinnaird's Head*, on which has lately been erected a lighthouse. This town has a tolerable harbour. Proceeding along the coast the country is populous and well cultivated. Near the old church called *St Fergus*, there are two small patches of land belonging to the shire of Banff.

On a peninsula near the mouth of the river *Ugie* stands *Peterhead*, a handsome and regular town. It has an excellent harbour, defended by a battery, and secured by a handsome new pier. Great quantities of white fish are caught on the neighbouring coast; and several large sloops are annually sent from this place to different fishing stations. The traders in this town have frequently obtained the highest premiums allowed by Government for curing white fish. A trade is also carried on from this place directly to the Baltic, for deals, iron, hemp, tar and other articles. There is here a manufacture of sewing-thread, which employs many young girls. In the summer season, this town is a place of polite resort, on account of its mineral spring. The waters of this spring are powerfully diuretic, and are thought to be efficacious in removing complaints in the bowels. There are here many elegant houses for the accommodation of

of strangers. There is also a ball-room, under which there are two salt-water baths.

To the south of this town, the shore becomes very rugged. In several places the sea breaks upon the cliffs with immense impetuosity. The place called the *Bullers* or *boilers of Buchan*, is the most remarkable. This is a large oval cavity of prodigious depth, formed by Nature's powerful hand, in the steep rocks on the coast. It lies east and west. The depth of it is about a hundred and fifty feet. There is a foot-path round it. On the north side, where the land comes up to it, one walks without fear, except he approach too near the verge of the dreadful gulf; but on the east end, and on the south side, where the path runs along the top of a ledge of rock, steep on both sides, like a walk along the top of the wall of a ruinous abbey; if he look on either hand, he must

have a steady head that does not feel it affected. Boats frequently sail into this awful pit, under a natural arch opening to the sea at the east end, and resembling the east window of some great cathedral. At a little distance, there is a vast insulated rock, divided by a narrow and very deep chasm from the land. About the middle of this rock, many feet above the level of the water, there is a large triangular aperture, through which the sea, when agitated, rushes with a tremendous noise.

In this neighbourhood is *Slains Castle*, a feat of the family of Errol. It is perched, like a falcon's nest, on a vast cliff above the sea. This place was, in ancient times, almost impregnable, being two-thirds furrounded by water, and having a ditch and a drawbridge on the accessible side. Along this coast are seen many lofty towering rocks, on which innumerable sea-fowls build their nests.

Proceeding

Proceeding southward, we find the ruins of *Old Slains Castle*, demolished in 1594, by James VI. on the rebellion of the Earl of Huntly. Near this, there is a great cavern, remarkable for stalactical incrustations, and vast quantities of petrifications. These are sometimes found in such abundance, as to be gathered and burnt for lime. This cavern possesses a petrifying power, so great, that a piece of wood, or any other substance, there exposed for a sufficient time, is converted into a solid mass of stone. Naturalists inform us, that such petrifications are occasioned by a deposition of calcareous particles from the water which moistens these subterraneous cavities. The particles thus deposited gradually pervade and incrust the decaying animal or vegetable substance, without altering its original appearance. Hence the entire forms of plants and small animals, as frogs and serpents, have often been found in petrifying caves and springs.

Near the village of *Ellon* the Earl of Aberdeen has an elegant seat, sheltered by a small plantation of trees. The river *Ythan* or *Eithan* passes this place. At the mouth of this river there is a salmon fishery; and in its channel pearls have often been found.

Old Aberdeen, said to be founded by Gregory the Great, in the ninth century, is situated on the south bank of the river Don. Over this river, there is an ancient bridge, of one pointed arch, resting on two opposite rocks. This town consists of one street, the buildings of which are for the most part ancient. An antique Gothic Cathedral, in which there are two places of worship, and the King's College, are here the most striking objects. The buildings of this college are by no means elegant; but in the library there is a good collection of modern books, and many curious ancient manuscripts.

New

New Aberdeen is a handsome city, situated on an eminence, on the north bank of the river Dee. About two miles above the town, there is an elegant bridge of seven arches over the river. The streets of New Aberdeen are well paved, and the houses, in general, lofty and spacious. The College, founded by Earl Marishall in 1593, is like the King's College, an old building; but both seminaries are rendered highly respectable, by the eminent literary accomplishments of many of the Professors and Eleves of those ancient seats of learning. Besides two parish churches, and the College kirk, there are here an elegant Episcopal chapel, and several meeting-houses belonging to various sectaries. The town-house is a handsome edifice, supporting a fine spire on the centre. The other remarkable public buildings are, Gordon's hospital, an infirmary, and a very neat grammar-school. There is abundance of peat in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, but no

coal. The number of inhabitants in the two cities and suburbs of Aberdeen, extending from the bridge over the Dee to that over the Don, is supposed to be above twenty thousand.

The harbour at the mouth of the Dee is defended by a strong stone-pier, lately erected at a vast expence. Beside the trade along the coast, vessels are sent from the port of Aberdeen to Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Russia, Dantzick, France, Spain and Portugal. The exports are stockings, linen, linen-yarn, salmon, salted pork, grain and oat-meal; but the staple article of commerce here has long been knit woollen stockings, of which immense quantities have been annually sent to Holland and Germany. But this manufacture has for some years been on the decline, in consequence of the introduction of stocking-looms or frames, which are employed here in working up, not only woollen, but also thread,

thread, cotton and filk, as in Nottingham. Machinery has been also erected for spinning cotton. Here are likewise an extensive printfield for cottons, a very extensive bleachfield for sewing-thread, and two mills for making paper. The salmon fishing on the Dee and the Don affords also a good branch of commerce. A space of between two and three hundred yards on the Don has been known to yield two thousand pounds in one year. The salmon are for most part sent to London; sometimes to France and Italy. The method of taking salmon in cruives, as here practised, is worthy of notice. A ridge of loose stones is heaped together across the river, in an oblique direction, and of a height sufficient to overtop the water. Several openings, of eight or nine feet wide, are left in this rude wall. In these a sort of boxes called cruives are fixed, in which the salmon are caught.

The

The soil around the town of Aberdeen is for most part stony, and naturally unproductive. Such, however, is the industry of the inhabitants, and such the happy effects of cultivation, that many spots which were, within these forty years entirely sterile, are at present rented at five or six pounds an acre.

On the beautiful and fertile banks of the river Don are situated the small boroughs of *Kintore* and *Inverurie*.

The river *Don* has its source in the wild country, about four miles north from the castle of *Braemar*. This river is, in no part of its course, above fifteen miles distant from the *Dee*, and approaches within two miles of it, where they both fall into the sea at Aberdeen.

On the *Don*, thirty miles above Aberdeen, are seen the princely ruins of *Kildrummy Castle*, the ancient seat of the Earl

Earl of Mar, now the property of Earl Fife. It stands on an eminence, and the fields around it are remarkably fertile. Bruce's wife and mother were here taken prisoners by Edward I. of England.

The river *Dee* rises in the western angle of the county, amid the vast mountains of *Mar-forest*. It traverses a wild and almost trackless country for several miles, till it reaches the fertile vale of *Brae-mar*. The rugged front and lofty summit of the awful precipices that surround this valley, here and there shaded with a solitary birch or a pine, exhibit a scene truly picturesque and romantic, and impress the mind of the beholder with ideas of sublimity and grandeur, more readily felt than described.

The castle of *Brae-mar*, the family-seat of the Earls of Mar, with its extensive domains, now belong also to Earl Fife. This place, which is scarce forty miles

miles from the port of Montrose, is the only spot in Scotland so remote from the sea.

In this neighbourhood there are many extensive woods of full grown firs. Several of these trees are almost a hundred feet high, and ten or twelve feet in circumference toward the root. When the river Dee is swelled with rain, floats of timber are sent down from the forests of Brae-mar into the low country.

The mountains abound with roes. The heath swarms with black game, grouse, plovers, wimbrels and snowflecks. The latter bird is of a whitish colour, and about the size of a lark. They assemble in great flocks in winter, and visit the lower countries. Eagles, and other birds of prey, breed among the high cliffs; and foxes are here remarkably bold and ravenous.

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In the termination of a deep glen is the pass of *Bollitir*, a narrow chasm, covered with shattered rocks that have fallen from the impending precipices on each side of the road. This pass is the eastern entrance into the Grampian mountains. The valley of *Glenmuick*, is noted for a waterfall called the *Lin of Dee*, where a great stream is poured over a perpendicular rock of a semicircular form, into a hole so deep as to be supposed by the vulgar unfathomable. A little below are the mineral waters of *Pannanach wells*, which, like those of Peterhead, are of a diuretic quality. A handsome building called Pannanach Lodge has been lately erected, for the accommodation of the company who resort to this place in summer. Invalids here not only enjoy the benefit of the waters, but have the advantage of drinking the whey of goats milk.

The

The part of the country called *Cromar*, is in a manner encircled by lofty mountains, except on the south. Here commences the low country, the seat of industry and cultivation. Among the mountains seen from this place, are distinguished the snowy top of *Lagbinygair*, the lofty summit of *Bendochy*, and farther west, the high hill called the *Buck of the Cawbrugh*.

On the banks of the river Dee, the country is diversified with woods of fir and birch. The plantations around the seat of the Earl of *Aboyne* are thriving and extensive. Near the village of *Kincardine-on-Dee*, the river passes out of the county for a few miles, but returns at *Durris*, and from thence marks out the boundary between this shire and that of Kincardine, till it falls into the sea on the south side of Aberdeen, after a course of about seventy miles.

The

The inhabitants of Cromar have for ages used the English language, although the Gaelic is still spoken at the distance of six or seven miles to the west, and every where through the mountainous parts of the country.

K I N.

K I N C A R D I N E.

THE shire of Kincardine, or *Mearns*, is bounded on the north by Aberdeenshire; on the east by the British Ocean; and on the south-west by Angus-shire. In form it resembles a harp, having the lower point towards the south. Its length alongst the coast is scarce thirty miles; its greatest breadth about twenty.

The tract of country through which the Dee passes, and the plain along the sea coast, are well cultivated, and produce much corn and flax. The fields are in many places screened by woods; and the heaths afford sheep-walks, and much good pasture for cattle.

The

The fishing-town of *Stonehaven*, or *Stonehive*, is situated on a rocky bay. To the south of the harbour the rocks rise to a great height. There is here a manufactory of canvas; and some trade in dried fish and oil. The oil is, for most part, obtained from the dog-fish, of which, at particular seasons, great quantities are caught on this coast. Near this place, to the south, are the ruins of *Dunotter Castle*, the ancient seat of the Earls Marishal of Scotland, situated on a high perpendicular rock, almost surrounded by the sea.

In this neighbourhood is a precipitous cliff overhanging the sea, called *Fowl's Cleugh*, noted as the resort of kittiwakes. The young of these birds are much sought after in the hatching season, and are esteemed a great delicacy.

At a little distance from Stonehaven, up the river, stands *Urie*, the birth-place
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of Barclay, the famous apologist for the Quakers. The Quakers have here a burying ground. In the vicinity are seen the traces of a Roman station.

The great valley, called *Strathmore*, commences here, and extends in a south-west direction, nearly as far as Benlomon in Stirlingshire, bounded all along to the north-west by the Grampian mountains.

The village of *Fordun*, a little south from the centre of the county, is supposed to be the birth-place of the celebrated author of the *Scotichronicon*. Near the village, and along the river *Bervie*, the country is flat, and well cultivated.

Inverbervie, the only royal borough in the county, is a small town, screened by two hills, which terminate in high cliffs toward the sea.

The

The new village of *Laurence Kirk*, about six miles west from Bervie, merits particular notice. Within these few years, the patriotic proprietor * of this handsome little town, has, by liberal exertions, here established a flourishing and extensive manufacture of lawn, cambrick, linen, and various other articles. Nor has his generosity been confined to the manufacturers alone: He has also freely renounced all the oppressive services due by his tenants; services which have been so long and so justly complained of as a check to agriculture in many parts of Scotland. A worthy example!

The north-west part of the shire, being mountainous, is more employed in pasture than in cultivation.

* Lord GARDENSTON.

A N G U S.

THE shire of Angus is sometimes called *Forfar*, from the name of the county-town. This shire is bounded on the north by Aberdeenshire; on the north-east by Kincardineshire; on the east by the British Ocean; on the south by the Frith of Tay, and on the west by Perthshire. Its greatest extent from north to south is about thirty-five miles, from east to west nearly the same.

A vast ridge of the *Grampian Mountains* extends along the northern part of this shire. The hills which terminate this ridge are called the *Braes of Angus*. From this lofty region descend the rivers *North* and *South Esk*. The former divides this county from Kincardineshire for several miles, and reaches the
sea

sea a little to the north of Montrose. The latter, after traversing the whole breadth of the county, falls into the bay on the west of the same town.

The borough of *Brecbin* stands on a plain, on the north side of the river South Esk, over which there is a good bridge. The Gothic cathedral is partly ruinous, though one of its ailes serves for the parish church. It is adorned with a steeple and a spire. Adjoining to this is a curious antique round tower, composed of hewn stone. It tapers from the bottom, and is very slender in proportion to its height. It has been observed to vibrate in a strong wind. There are similar towers in other parts of the country; such as that at Abernethy. Some people conjecture that they have been erected by the Picts; others think they are more modern, and may have served as belfreys, when churches were built of wood. The purpose to

which they were anciently destined, is not, however, certainly known. In this town there is a manufacture of linen and cotton, and a considerable tannery.

The borough of *Montrose* is a well built town, situated on a sandy plain, near the estuary of the river South Esk. Over this river a bridge is now erecting, near the town. A few years ago, at about two miles distance to the north, an elegant bridge of seven arches was built over the North Esk. At high water the town is almost surrounded by the sea. The harbour is a fine semicircular basin, defended by a handsome stone pier. A great number of trading vessels belong to this port. The buildings in *Montrose* are neat, and many of them in the modern taste. The most remarkable are the town-house, the church, and an elegant Episcopal chapel. At this place a great quantity of malt is made; and considerable manufactures of fail-cloth,

cloth, linen and thread are carried on. The salmon fishings on the North and South Esk are very valuable, and form a good branch of commerce.

About six miles south-west from Brechin, at the village of *Aberlemno*, are seen several great stones, covered with rude sculpture, supposed to have been erected in memory of a victory gained over the Danes by Malcolm II.

Toward the centre of the shire is *Forfar*, the county-town, containing many neat modern houses. It is situated in an extensive plain, which extends in a bending direction from Perth to Arbroath, skirted on the south by a range of hills. A canal has been proposed to be carried along this fertile vale, to open a ready communication with the sea. Surveys have been made, and the undertaking has been demonstrated to be very practicable. But improvements, though

here advancing in a rapid progression, are not yet come to such a pitch as to induce private individuals to engage in this useful enterprize. Along this bottom is at present a chain of small lakes of inconsiderable depth, which in many places are found to contain shell-marl, a manure of great value, by means of which the fertility of the adjacent soil has been greatly augmented. In the rich level tract that passes through this county, besides immense quantities of grain of every sort, there is perhaps more flax raised than in any space of the same extent in Scotland. Much of the flax is manufactured into Osnaburghs, and a variety of other linen goods, by the inhabitants of this place.

Near the town of Forfar there was formerly a lake, now almost drained, on account of a stratum of rich marl found at its bottom. In the vicinity of the village of *Kirrymuir*, are seen vestiges of

a Roman camp, supposed to have been raised by Agricola.

Near the village of *Glamis* is *Glamis Castle*, the seat of the Earl of Strathmore, an ancient edifice, surrounded by extensive woods. Many ornamental turrets of exquisite workmanship exhibit a magnificent specimen of that species of architecture. In the front of the house are seen several statues of the Stuart family, as large as life, cast in lead. This castle is noted for the murder of Malcolm II. who, in 1034, here fell by the hands of assassins, in an apartment still shown to strangers.

On the south of Montrose, the coast is bold and rocky, and abounds with vast caverns. That called *Geylit Pot* merits particular notice. Here the adventurous passenger, descending into a boat, from a steep rock, embarks in a subterraneous voyage, amid a dark and terrific scene;
and

and proceeding through the cavity, at last arrives unexpectedly at a distance from the sea, and only in sight of the sky and the corn-fields.

The village of *Ufan*, (a contraction for *Ulysses Haven*) in this neighbourhood, is remarkable for a lobster fishery. An immense number of these fish, together with a quantity of beautiful pebbles found among the rocks on this shore, form a branch of trade with London.

On the promontory of *Redbead* are the ruins of an old castle, almost surrounded by the sea. This cape is remarkable for being the point beyond which coals are not permitted to pass without paying a very heavy duty. This exaction is considered by those who are subjected to it, as oppressive and injurious to trade; especially as this county is but ill supplied with peat or other fuel.

Aberbrothwick,

Aberbrothwick, or *Arbroath*, is a royal borough. It is a neat small town, in which a considerable sail-cloth and linen manufacture is carried on. At this place there was an abbey, said to be founded by William the Lion in 1178. The magnificent ruins of this superb edifice still remain.

To the south-west of Arbroath is the beautiful seat of the Earl of *Panmure*, surrounded with fine pleasure-grounds and plantations.

Broughty Castle is a ruinous fort at the entrance to the Frith of Tay, which once commanded that pass. On a small river near it stand a lint-mill, an oil-mill, and a mill for spinning coarse yarn.

On the summit of a green hill called *Laws*, are seen the remains of a vitrified fort, resembling those in the neighbourhood of Inverness.

Dundee

Dundee is a large and flourishing town, seated on the north side of the estuary of the Tay. There is here an excellent harbour, and a great deal of shipping. The houses, in general, are neat; and some public buildings have been lately erected, that are noticed by strangers as elegant. Among these are the new church and the town-house. In the latter, among other ornaments, the great hall is decorated with a full length picture of the gentleman * who has represented in Parliament the district of boroughs which includes Dundee, for these thirty years,—a mark of respect well befitting a name that will be recorded in future times among the scanty list of patriots who have acted a worthy part on the theatre of public life. The lofty Gothic square tower in the middle of the town, is part of a superb consecrated edifice, in form of a cross, built in the twelfth century, and dedicated to the Virgin

* GEORGE DEMPSTER, Esq;

Virgin Mary. The chief manufactures of this place are glafs, Osnaburgs or coarfe linen, fail-cloth, cordage, coloured and white thread and buckrams; tanned leather, shoes and hats. Vast quantities of coarfe linen are annually exported from this feat of induftry: In one year above four millions of yards, it is faid, have been ftamped at the public office. A fugar-houfe has alfo been here eftablifhed, which carries on a fuccesful trade. The town is faid to contain about fixteen thoufand inhabitants.

On the north of Dundee the rich corn-fields and extenfive fheep-walks are fcreened by a range of mountains called the *Sidly hills*.

Toward the boundary of Perthfhire, is the town called *Cupar of Angus*, pleasantly fituated near the confluence of feveral confiderable ftreams.

PERTH.

P E R T H.

THIS extensive county is bounded on the north by Inverness and Aberdeen shires; on the east by the shire of Angus, and the Frith of Tay; on the south by Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan and Stirling shires; and on the west by Argyleshire. Its extent from east to west is about sixty miles, from north to south nearly the same. Its form, if we include the small shires of Kinross and Clackmannan, is such, that a circle, having its centre about Glen Quech, and its radius extended to Glen Shee, would pass, all around, pretty near to the waving outline.

The northern district of Perthshire is called *Atbol*. This part of the country is uncommonly wild and mountainous.

On

On the north-west is the extensive lake called *Loch Ericht*, stretching several miles into Invernesshire. Near this place wandered the unhappy fugitive in 1746, lurking in caves and among rocks, subjected to want, and exposed to all the rigours of an inhospitable climate. The waters of this lake descend into another, of about eleven miles in length, called *Loch Rannoch*. Its southern banks are covered with an ancient forest of pine and birch. Near these woods there is a saw-mill erected by Government. At the west end of this lake stands the village, or rather military barracks of *George Town*. About two miles east of Loch Rannoch is *Mount Alexander*, the seat of Robinson of *Struan*, the poet, who celebrates a fine spring of water at the bottom of this hill, by the name of *Argentine*, or the Silver Fountain.

South from this rises the great mountain *Schiballion*, Dr Maskelyne, astronomer

nomer Royal, visited this mountain some years ago, to make experiments and observations on its power of attraction on the pendulum.

From Loch Rannoch issues the rapid river *Tumel*, which, after exhibiting many cataracts and beautiful cascades, in passing through its rocky channel, forms itself into a smooth lake called *Loch Tumel*, and afterwards falls into the *Garry*. The *Garry* descends from the mountains to the east of Loch Ericht. Its source is about mid way between the inns of *Dalwhinnie* and *Dalnacardoch*. The military road runs along the side of the hills, above the river, which holds its course in a direction nearly south-east.

The rivers *Bruar* and *Tilt* descend from the northern mountains, and flow toward the centre of the county, till they also fall into the *Garry*. Their united streams,

streams, along with the Tumel, join the Tay below the village of *Logierait*.

East from the Tilt are the great mountains of *Bengloe*; and a little to the south of the point where the shires of Aberdeen, Angus and Perth meet, lies the *Spital of Glenshee*, where there is a noted pass into the Grampian mountains. From these the river *Airdle* descends, which, about twenty miles below, mixes its waters with the *Isla*, and afterwards their united stream falls into the Tay.

Returning to the confluence of the Tilt and the Garry, we find, in the angle they form, the village of *Blair-Athol*, and close by it *Blair Castle*, a seat of the Duke of Athol. This noble fabric stands on an eminence, amid a beautiful plain. It is surrounded with hills, woods and deep glens, and in its vicinity there are many fine water-falls. That called *York Cascade*, is much admired for its broken
L stages,

stages, and the beautiful birch trees that fringe the surrounding rocks. The extensive plantations that adorn this romantic scene, are diversified with many fine spreading firs of the spruce kind,

———A stately progeny of pines;
With all their floating foliage richly robed.

In the vast mountains and wastes around, we meet with the various tribe of heath-fowls. Here, too, are seen herds of wild stags and roebucks.

Near the junction of the Tummel with the Garry, is the narrow pass of *Killcrankie*, the grand entrance into the Highlands in those parts. 'The pass, (says Mr Pennant) is extremely narrow between high mountains, with the Garry running beneath in a deep, darksome and rocky channel, overhung with trees, forming a scene of horrible grandeur.' This place is memorable for the defeat of King William's army
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in 1689, and the fall of the brave Viscount of Dundee, at the moment of victory. Here also a body of Hessians, in 1746, made a full pause, refusing to march farther. It appeared to them as the *ne plus ultra* of habitable country.

The next division of Perthshire is called *Breadalbane*. In the western part of this district is *Loch Lyon*, from which a river descends, which falls into the Tay below *Fortingall*. On the northern bank of the river *Lyon*, are seen the remains of a circular fort, on the top of a hill. Many curious round towers, vestiges of Roman encampments, and other remains of antiquity, are met with in different parts of this country. The woody vale through which this river flows, is called *Glen Lyon*. Between this place and Loch Tay, *Benlawer* lifts its towering head, spotted with perpetual snow. Multitudes of stags and Alpine hares, heath-fowl, grouse and ptarmigans

migans inhabit the different regions of this mountain.

At the most westerly point of the shire, are the sources of the Tay, near the place called *Tyndrum*. This is the highest part of the country; and the waters on either side of these mountains, flow toward opposite seas. Near *Tyndrum* some veins of lead have been worked. Amid the mountains that compose this lofty region, are distinguished the snow-caped summits of *Bendoran* and *Dochart*. The country people imagine these to be enchanted mountains. Before the storm begins to rage, they emit a hollow sound which forebodes it. Sounds of this kind are, however, not uncommon, and are often mentioned by the ancients as signs of bad weather:

———*Altis*

Montibus audiri fragor.

VIRG.

Loch

Loch Dochart is a beautiful small lake, in which a wooded island, adorned with the ruins of an old castle, forms a very picturesque scene. The waters of this lake are discharged into Loch Tay.

Loch Tay is about fifteen miles long, and in many places above a mile broad. Some years ago, a remarkable agitation was observed in this lake. An account of that phenomenon has since been published *. On the 12th of September 1784, the lake was observed to ebb and flow several times in the space of a quarter of an hour, when all at once the waters rushed from the east and west in opposite currents, so as to form a ridge, leaving the channel dry to the distance of almost a hundred yards from its usual boundary. When the opposite waves met, they burst with a clashing noise and much foam; the waters then flow-

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* Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, vol. i. Physical Class, p. 200.

ed out at least five yards beyond their ordinary limits. The flux and reflux continued gradually decreasing for about two hours; for several days a similar motion was observed in the waters, but not in the same degree as on the first day. The banks of this lake are beautifully wooded; and the various streams that are poured into it from the steep rocky mountains, after a fall of rain, exhibit many fine cascades, overhung by thickets of hazel and picturesque birch. On a small island in this lake, are seen the ruins of a priory, founded by Alexander I. surrounded with tufts of trees.

The seat of the Earl of Breadalbane at *Tay-mouth*, is an ancient castle modernized. It stands on a lawn between two mountains which open to the lake. Behind it flows the Tay, here become a broad and rapid stream. Near the house there is a fine shady walk, composed of great trees, whose extended branches

unite

Dunkeld is situated amid vast rocks, partly naked and partly wooded, under which the Tay rolls his majestic stream. Its romantic situation, and the advantage of drinking goats whey, invite much genteel company to this place in the summer months. *Dunkeld* is the market-town of the Highlands on that side, and carries on some manufacture of linen. The Duke of Athol has a fine seat here. It is rather a fine villa, than a ducal mansion. Being a favourite spot, it has, however, been the object of much attention and expence. ‘ This favoured spot ‘ (says Mr Gilpin) consists of a small ‘ circular valley, surrounded by a grand ‘ skreen of mountains. The base of

‘ those

‘ those mountains is washed by the Tay,
‘ at this place broad, deep, and silent.’
The whole valley is interspersed with
wood, adorned with cascades, sloping
banks, and beautiful winding walks.

The ruins of a cathedral, shrouded
with wood, stand near the house. Part
of this ancient pile is now the parish-
church.

The river *Braan*, descending from
the hills, east of Loch Tay, falls into
the Tay a little above Dunkeld. Upon
this river there is a grand scene, at a
place called the *Rumbling Bridge*. Un-
der an arch thrown over a narrow chasm,
between two projecting rocks which al-
most meet, the whole waters of the river
are precipitated in a fall of nearly fifty
feet.

The Duke’s pleasure-grounds are
beautiful beyond description. ‘ At the
‘ Hermitage,

‘ Hermitage, on the river Braan, (continues Mr Gilpin) the whole stream, in foaming violence, forcing its way through an abrupt and rocky descent, exhibits an astonishing cascade. At the bottom, it has formed an abyfs, in which the wheeling waters suffer a new agitation, though of a different kind.’ When this cataract is feen from a fummer-houfe in the Duke’s gardens, in which the panes of glafs are of various colours, its effect is new and fuprizing. When viewed through one of the red panes, it appears as if it were changed into a fiery cataract.

From this is feen the hill of *Birnam*, celebrated in dramatic ftory. It is now totally divested of wood. Of *Dunfinnan* caftle no veltiges remain, except a double ditch. On the top of a mountain, at a confiderable diftance, is alfo feen the ruin of *Macbeth’s Caftle*.

To

To the east, on the banks of the river Airdle, stands the village of *Blairgourie*. The country to the south is part of the extensive plain called Strathmore, already mentioned. The soil in this tract is excellent; and rich shell marl is found in abundance. Great quantities of flax and grain are here raised by means of this manure.

At *Luncarty*, a few miles north from Perth, there is one of the most extensive bleaching grounds in Scotland. This place is signalized by the great victory obtained by the Scots over the Danes in 970, where the gallant HAY, and his two sons, are said to have turned the tide of conquest in favour of their countrymen. In these fields, which are now covered with linen cloth, or luxuriant crops of wheat and other grain, swords, spears, and targets, occasionally dug up in the course of agriculture, and in the formation of canals for the purposes of bleaching, furnish

nish every day fresh proofs of the authenticity of Scottish history :

-----Finibus illis

Agricola, incurvo terram molitus aratro,
Exesa inveniet scabra rubigine pila. VIRG.

From the west the river *Almond* falls into the Tay, nearly opposite to Scone, a little above Perth. On the north bank of this river stood old Perth, or *Bertba*, as it was then called. In 1200, this town was entirely swept away by an inundation of the river ; after which it was rebuilt in the present site, and for some time called St John's Town.

On an eminence on the east side of the Tay, stands the ancient palace of *Scone*, now a seat of the Viscount Stormont. It is famous in story. Here the Scottish Kings were crowned, in the celebrated stone chair, once considered as the palladium of Scottish Empire. This chair is now in Westminster Abbey.

Perth

Perth is situated in an extensive plain, on the banks of the Tay. So beautiful is the approach to this town, that the Roman army, it is said, on seeing its noble river, burst into the exclamation of *Ecce Tyberim!* The town is built according to a regular plan; and the greater part of the houses are in the modern taste. It has two churches, one of which has been formerly part of a fine Monastery. An elegant stone bridge of nine arches is thrown over the Tay at the east end of the town.

In former times this place was the residence of the Scottish Kings, and the seat of the parliament and courts of justice. At present its happy situation for trade, the Tay being there a navigable river, renders Perth a very flourishing town. A great linen and cotton manufacture is here established. Much wheat, barley and flax is annually exported from the fertile country around, of which
this

this town is the emporium. The salmon fishings in the Tay form a great object of commerce. Immense quantities of that fish are sent from hence to London and Edinburgh. It is said, that a pearl fishery in this river, was carried on very successfully about fifty years ago; but no pearls are now found here. Near the bridge stands the house of the celebrated Earl of Gowrie, noted for the dubious conspiracy against King James VI. To the east stretches the fertile *Carse of Gowrie*, along the north side of the estuary of the Tay. The hill of *Kinnoul*, in this neighbourhood, is remarkable for its beautiful pebbles; and on the south side of the Tay is the hill of *Moncrief*, overlooking the whole frith and the fine vale of *Stratbearn*. This plain extends many miles to the west, being screened on the north by the *Grampian* mountains, and on the south by the *Ochils*, (or perhaps *Oak hills*, because they were in former times covered with oak)

oak) which are green and softly swelling hills, covered with grass to their summit. The *Earn*, a considerable river, issuing from a lake of that name, meanders beautifully, for above twenty miles, through this charming valley. This plain contains a great number of villas and country-seats, surrounded with rich fields, and embellished with plantations. In the south-eastern part, called *Lower Strathearn*, is *Abernethy* with its ancient tower, said to have been once the site of the capital of the Picts.

Pitcaithly Wells, are remarkable saline springs, the waters of which have a brackish taste, and are esteemed very beneficial in scorbutic complaints. At a little distance are seen the house and birken wood of *Invermay*, the subject of a well known pastoral song. On the north side of the Earn stands *Duplin House*, now modernized, the seat of the Earl of Kinnoul, rising amid forests of
ancient

ancient trees. The battle of Duplin, in 1332, so fatal to the Scots, signalizes this place.

On the banks of this river is the town of *Crief*. The fair or market for cattle annually held here, is one of the greatest in Scotland. Nearer the lake stands the village of *Comry*, where several shocks of an earthquake were felt in 1789. The fine country between Lochearn and Crief is thus described, by a modern traveller: ‘*Upper Strathearn*, situated on a spur of the Grampians, which advances a little into the noble expanse formed by the union of Strathmore and Strathearn, may be called the Montpelier of Scotland. It is resorted to in summer for the purity of the air, goat-whey, and its rural charms, by people from Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other places. Woods, mountains, lakes, and the *solum ficcum cum aquis fluentibus*, conspire to render this one of the most charming

‘ charming spots that imagination can
‘ conceive. Here the people speak both
‘ Erse and English. There is not any
‘ other place in Scotland where the
‘ Gaelic tongue penetrates at this day so
‘ far into the low country. This valley,
‘ from its verdant appearance, is called
‘ *Erne*, or Green. It was anciently a
‘ principality or county-palatine, and
‘ the inheritance of a branch of the
‘ Royal Family of Scotland; and it still
‘ gives a title to a Prince of the blood
‘ of England*.’

To the south of Crief is *Drummond Castle*, the ancient seat of the Earl of Perth. Amid the windings of the Earn, are the venerable ruins of the Abbey of *Innerpaffray*, near which are a *gratis* school for poor children, and a library provided for the entertainment and benefit of the public, founded by Gilbert Earl of Strathern.

Toward

* Tour in England and Scotland in 1785, p. 200.

On the south side of the Ochils rises the *Devon*, a truly pastoral river. The nature of the ground has forced it to take a very circuitous course, at some times rushing precipitately down the broken declivities of the mountains, and at others, gliding gently in the bottoms between them. In one place it winds entirely round, and runs in an opposite direction, almost parallel to its former course, passing through the beautiful vale called *Glendevon*. Here is another *Rumbling Bridge*, similar to that over the Braan. ‘ This (says Mr Pennant) is a
M bridge

‘ bridge of one arch, flung over a hor-
‘ rible chasm, worn by the river, about
‘ eighty feet deep, and very narrow.
‘ The bottom is strewed with fragments
‘ of rocks, where the waters are visible
‘ gushing between them. The sides in
‘ many places project, and almost lock
‘ into each other. A few shrubs and
‘ pendulous trees shoot out here and
‘ there from the rugged cliffs, and con-
‘ tribute to increase the gloom of the
‘ scene, while the ear is filled with the
‘ cawing of daws, the cooing of wood
‘ pigeons, and the noise of the impetu-
‘ ous waters.’ In several other places the
river has forced its way, in a surprising
manner, through obstructing rocks. At
the *Caldron-lin*, in the lapse of ages, it
has worn away the softer parts of the
stone, and formed immense pits, into
which the water falls with a tremen-
dous noise. The hollow sound which
proceeds from the bottom of the chasm,
and the boiling turbulence of the water
dashing

dashing on the rocks, appal the spectator.—Below this the whole river is precipitated in one sheet from a height of forty feet, upon huge stones torn from the face of the rock.

To the west of the village of Auchterarder, are seen the remains of a Roman camp, on a wild heath, by the side of the rivulet called *Knaick*. On the south, between the Ochils and the Grampian mountains, lies *Sheriff-muir*, the scene of a bloody, though indecisive conflict, in 1715, between the rebel army under the Earl of Mar, and the King's forces.

The village of *Dumblane* is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river *Allen*. In this village a library is kept, similar to that of Innerpaffry. There is a ruinous cathedral at the upper end of the town. To the north-west appears the fertile plain called *Strathballen*.

The river *Teith* descends from two chains of lakes in the Grampian mountains. On its banks stand *Callender House*, and several gentlemens seats, with the village of *Doune*, and many old castles. On the south-west side of the *Teith* is *Blair-Drummond*, where the late Lord Kames, by liberal exertions, cultivated a deep morass, and converted it into corn fields.

From the mountainous country to the north-west of the district of *Monteith*, and the east of *Benlomond*, descend numerous rivulets, which, uniting their streams, form the beautiful river *Forth*, which winds through its rich banks with an increasing stream, towards the east; marking the southern boundary of the county for several miles.

F I F E.

THIS county is bounded on the north by the estuary of the Tay; on the east by the British Ocean; on the south by the Frith of Forth; and on the west by Kinross, Perth and Clackmannan shires. It is thus bounded on three sides by water. Its figure is very irregular. Its greatest breadth is about sixteen miles; its length above fifty.

In surveying this county, we shall take our first station at the borough of *Falkland*, which stands at the foot of one of those beautiful green hills called the *Lomonds*. This town was formerly a royal residence. The magnificent ruins of the palace afford some idea of its ancient grandeur. Some apartments in it are still inhabited. Falkland has

some linen manufacture; but, like most small inland towns, its inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. A few miles south, on the banks of the Leven, stands *Lesley*, the seat of the Earl of Rothes. East from it are the villages of *Markinch* and *Kennoway*.

In the beautiful level tract, extending to the north-east of Falkland, stands *Melville House*, the seat of the Earl of Leven, and *Crawford Lodge*, the residence of Lord Crawford, and several other pleasant villas, adorned with plantations.

Cupar, a royal borough, and the county-town, lies eight miles east from Falkland. It is situated in a rich valley, on the north side of the little river *Eden*, near which is the seat of Lord *Balgonie*. Lower down, on the same river, is *Dairsie*, an old castle, with a fine chapel. This river forms a pretty large bay with the sea, near the village of *Leuchars*.

Returning

Returning to Falkland, and tracing the road that leads to Perth, we find the village of *Strathmiglo*. Two miles east from it stands *Auchtermuchty*, celebrated in a humorous Scottish ballad. Directly north from this place, on the coast of the Frith of Tay, is the village of *Newburgh*, and the magnificent ruin of *Lindores Abbey*. There was also here a castle of great strength. Proceeding along the coast, we find the family seat of *Balmerino*, which commands a beautiful prospect of the *Frith of Tay*. This frith, toward the north-east angle of the county, becomes extremely narrow. At the Ferry-town, called *Parton Craigs*, it is not above a mile broad.

The city of *St Andrews* is situated at the bottom of a bay, on the level top of a small hill, extending east and west, having an open prospect to the sea. The view is bounded on the land side by a semicircular range of hills. It was for-

merly the seat of a Metropolitan Bishop. The cathedral, the chapel of St Regulus, more ancient than it and still more entire, the church of St Salvator, and the Priory, have been noble Gothic structures. The castle of St Andrews was the scene of the cruelty and the punishment of the noted Cardinal Beaton, who was there put to death in 1546.

St Andrews was, in former times, by far the most regular city in Scotland. Four spacious parallel streets terminated by the lofty cathedral on the east, and the city wall on the west, were crossed at right angles by several narrow streets or lanes. Deriving its dignity and splendour from the church, we need not be surpris'd that the Reformation reduced it to a heap of deserted ruins. Though it cannot be expected to recover its original glory, yet by the advantages of its situation, and the industry of its inhabitants, it may again rise to a degree of respectability

respectability for trade and manufactures.

The celebrated university of this town was founded by Bishop Wardlaw in 1411. Its retired and healthy situation is peculiarly favourable to the students. The Professors who teach the various branches of literature, are men of distinguished virtue and abilities; and from the narrow limits of the society, the character of every student is perfectly known. Hence even the smallest irregularity is instantly discovered and checked. Vice, therefore, can make but little progress in this place, since the incorrigible are not permitted to remain long the corrupters of the rest.

The number of small boroughs which fringe the southern coast of this county has become proverbial *. Proceeding toward

* Most of these boroughs were erected by James VI. The coast therefore got the name of 'King James's laced waistcoat.'

toward the south-west, from the point of *Fife Ness*, (the subject of the Scottish air called the 'East nook of Fife') we find in succession, Crail, Kilrenny, East and West Anstruther, (or Enster) and Pittenweem; Leven, East and West Wemyss, Dysart, Kirkcaldy, Kinghorn, Burntisland, Inverkeithing and Dunfermline.

The borough of *Crail*, small as it is, is said to hold the King to be perpetual Provost of the town,—an honour which his present Majesty perhaps never knew he possessed.

About seven miles to the south-east of Crail, is seen the *Isle of May*. The lighthouse on this island is of great benefit to vessels entering the Frith.

Along the curvature of the beautiful bay of *Largo*, we meet with a cheerful succession of towns and gentlemens seats. The green conic hill called *Largo Law*, affords a fine sheep walk; and its base is
well

well cultivated. The villages on the coast have manufactures of salt, and carry on a brisk trade in coals. Near the village of *Lundie* are three vast upright stones; the largest sixteen feet high. These stones are probably monuments of the victory obtained near this place over the Danes by Macbeth and Banquo. A little to the west, the river *Leven* falls into the sea at a neat village to which it gives name, and which bids fair to be a place of considerable trade. Next is the fishing town of *Buckhaven*, and *East and West Wemyss*. On an eminence impending over the sea, is the house of *Wemyss*, the ancient family seat. In this neighbourhood there are vast strata of coal, many of them at least nine yards thick. ‘ Some of these (says Mr Pennant) ‘ have been on fire for above two centuries; and there have been instances of ‘ eruptions of smoke apparent in the day, ‘ and of fire in the night. The violence ‘ of the conflagration has ceased; but it ‘ still

‘ still continues in a certain degree, as
‘ is evident in time of snow, which melts
‘ in streams on the surface wherever
‘ there are any fissures.’

Dysart stands high on the shore. Its situation is pleasant; and it has a considerable trade in coals.

Kirkcaldy is above a mile in length. It contains many well built houses, and has a silk manufacture, and a good deal of trade and shipping. The harbour, and a dock-yard for small vessels, are situated at the east end of the town.

Pathhead, a considerable manufacturing village, is almost adjoining to *Kirkcaldy* on the east. It is so near, that a stranger would think it a continuation of the same town.

Kinghorn is built upon the slope of two opposite banks. It can scarce be said to have

have either a harbour or trade. The harbour of *Pettycur*, about a mile distant, is the ordinary landing place of the passage-boats from Leith on the opposite shore.

In this neighbourhood the shore is very bold and rocky, exhibiting many high cliffs and precipices, generally facing the west. One of these precipices is signalized as the place where Alexander III. in 1285, unhappily lost his life by a fall from his horse, while eager in the chase. The death of this Monarch was an event the most dreadful in its consequences, of any recorded in the annals of Scotland. To it succeeded the disastrous wars, occasioned by the competition of Baliol and Bruce for the Scottish crown. History mournfully records the fact; yet no monument has been erected to mark the fatal spot.

Burntisland

Burntisland is a small town, situated under a stupendous rock. It has an excellent harbour, in form of a basin, where ships are sometimes ordered to perform quarantine. It has a sugar-house, and some beginning manufactures. Near this place are found stones that appear to have been thrown out by a volcano.

Near the village of *Aberdour*, is a seat of the Earl of Morton. To the west stands *Dunibristle*, the elegant seat of the Earl of Murray. At this place, the gallant nobleman lamented in the Scottish ballad of the 'Bonny Earl of Murray,' was cruelly murdered in 1592, on suspicion of having gained the affections of the Queen.

The borough of *Inverkeithing* stands on a beautiful bay of the Frith, and has a considerable trade in coal and other articles.

The

The *Lime-kilns* begun by the Earl of Elgin, about twenty-four years ago, are among the greatest in Britain; being placed amid inexhaustible beds of limestone and coal, and situated on the shore, they supply the whole eastern coast of Scotland with that necessary article.

The borough of *Dunfermline* is a considerable manufacturing town, and has a good trade in linen goods, particularly diapers. It is, however, chiefly remarkable for its royal palace, which was the birth place of the unfortunate Monarch Charles I. Here also the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of James VI. was born. She was the mother of the Princess Sophia, from whom the present Royal Family are descended. Adjoining to this palace, there was a magnificent abbey. Part of the remains now serves as a parish-church. In this place were buried Malcolm and his Queen, and several Kings of Scotland.

The

The whole south coast of Fife abounds with coal; and the numerous collieries on this coast, supply a great part of the north of Scotland with fuel.

The work lately erected by the Earl of Dundonald, merits particular notice. Here, by the ingenious discovery his Lordship has made, a mineral tar is extracted from the coal, highly efficacious in preserving wood, and preventing ships from being injured by worms in the hot climates.

Mr Pennant thus concludes his observations on the county of Fife: ‘ It is a
‘ county so populous, that excepting the
‘ environs of London, scarce one in South
‘ Britain can vie with it; fertile in soil;
‘ abundant in cattle; happy in collieries;
‘ in iron-stone, lime and free stone; blessed
‘ in manufactures; the property remark-
‘ ably well divided; none insultingly
‘ powerful, to distress, and often depo-
‘ pulate

'pulate a country; most of the fortunes
 'of a useful mediocrity. The number
 'of towns is perhaps unparalleled in an
 'equal tract of coast; for the whole
 'shore, from Crail to Culrofs, about
 'forty English miles, is one continued
 'chain of towns and villages.

The small borough of Kinross is situ-
 ted on a plain, bordered on the north by
 the Ochil hills. The manufactures of
 this town are linen, and some cotton
 ware. The house of Kinross, an elegant
 ancient residence, stands on the north
 side of the town.

N I N-
 Nineween is a beautiful lake, about
 twelve miles in circumference. It is
 somewhat of a circular form, and is
 greatly indented. In this lake are seven
 small islands; on one of which stands
 a ruinous castle. This was the place
 where

K I N R O S S.

This small county is interjected between Perthshire and Fife. It is about thirty miles in circuit; and its length and breadth are nearly equal.

The small borough of *Kinross* is situated on a plain, screened on the north by the Ochil hills. The manufactures of this town are linen, and some cutlery ware. The house of Kinross, an elegant ancient structure, stands on the north side of the town.

Lochleven is a beautiful lake, about twelve miles in circumference. It is somewhat of a circular form, and irregularly indented. In this lake are several small islands; on one of which stands a ruinous castle. This was the place
where

where the unfortunate Queen of Scots was confined by the confederate Lords, after the murder of her husband, and her marriage with Bothwell. Her escape was effected in May 1568, by the assistance of young Douglas, brother to the governor of the castle: The sad story of this Princess has been thus expressed in the language of poetry :

See where the Leven shines,
A spacious lake, translucent, smooth and still.
Ill-fated MARY, captive and unthroned,
In yonder lonely isle, was wont to walk,
Whispering with heavy heart, in broken sighs,
Her mournful plaint, her unremitting woes.

* * * * *

Yet oh! that still to Fate's decree resigned,
Nor led by Hope's delusive smile to change,
From bad to worse, her sad unhappy state,
She here had staid, and ne'er the fate of war
Had tried, or rival power had trusted. Then
Nor durance hard, in foreign land, had held
The captive Queen; nor Justice, sacred name,

N 2

Greatly

Greatly abused, indignant had beheld
The lifted ax,—the block,—the mangled corpse,
And sad remains of Majesty laid low!

St Serf's Isle is said to have been a residence of the Pictish priests, called Culdees. It was afterwards the seat of a Priory, of which some small remains are still to be seen.

This lake produces trouts of peculiar excellence. Of these great quantities are, at certain seasons, sent to the market of Edinburgh. In autumn, a singular species called the Gully trout, is here salted and dried for winter provision.

This shire sends a member to Parliament alternately with Clackmannan.

CLACK-

CLACKMANNAN.

THIS small county is almost surrounded by Perthshire, except on the south-west, where it is bounded by the Forth. Its greatest length is about eight miles, and its breadth about five. Its figure is extremely irregular, being broken on the north by two detached parts of Stirlingshire, and on the east by a portion of Perthshire.

At the south-west point of this shire, on a peninsula formed by the winding Forth, stands the ruinous Abbey of *Cambuskenneth*. It was founded by David in 1147, and was one of the most opulent in Scotland. Here King James III. and his Queen were buried. Opposite to this ancient structure, there is a range of lofty steep rocks.

On the banks of the *Devon*, which passes through the middle of this shire, stands *Alva* house. About the beginning of the present century, the proprietor of the estate of *Alva* discovered evident signs of a silver mine in the *Ochil* mountains. A piece of the ore being shown to King George I. who was a skilful metallurgist, his Majesty pronounced it to be *too young* by five hundred years. The idea of metals growing in their beds is not uncommon, and in some cases may be proved undeniably. The *Devon* falls into the Forth near *Tullibody*.

The borough of *Clackmannan* is a small town, situated on the northern shore of the Frith of Forth. It stands at the bottom of a hill, on the top of which is seen an ancient castle. A large square tower in this fort, derives its name from the illustrious Robert Bruce. Here are preserved the great sword and the casque of that celebrated Scottish hero. A large
two-

two-handed sword is also shown here, said to have belonged to Sir John Graham, the faithful attendant of the great Wallace.

The port of *Alloa* is conveniently situated for the coal-trade. A custom-house is here established, for the convenience of the shipping in this part of the Forth. *Alloa* is consequently a considerable town, and the resort of all the coal-vessels in the neighbourhood. It has a glass-house, and some other manufactures.

The borough of *Culrofs* stands also on the bank of the Frith of Forth. This place is remarkable for an ancient palace or abbey, said to have been built by Malcolm Canmore.

This borough, together with the village of *Kincardine*, and a tract of country around them, almost twenty miles

in circuit, are accounted appendages of
Perthshire,

In both these small counties there is
much fine pasture, and a considerable
proportion of cultivated ground. The
chief crops, however, are barley, oats
and flax.

S T I R.

STIRLING.

THIS county is bounded on the north by Perthshire; on the east by the Frith of Forth; and on the south and west by Dumbartonshire. Its form is irregular; but it is broadest toward the middle, and tapers gradually, in a bending direction, toward the east and north-west. Its length is above thirty miles; its greatest breadth thirteen.

In the northern part of this shire, the most striking object is the great mountain *Ben Lomond*, about three thousand two hundred feet above the level of the lake, at its bottom. It stretches along the east side of Loch Lomond several miles; and its broad base extends so far into the country, that the ascent of the mountain, though steep, is computed to be

be six miles. In this long ascent we meet with a diversity of climates, and a variety of inhabitants. Ptarmigans and other heath-fowls frequent its upper regions. Its lower are the haunt of the roebuck; and herds of cattle feed in the irriguous valleys and sheltered pastures at its base. The noble prospect from this lofty mountain is well described in a little poem addressed to Loch Lomond.

The setting sun, with parting ray upreared,
Ben Lomond, last of all our mountains, gilds.
Day, as averse to leave the pleasing scene,
Slowly retires far north, nor quite forsakes,
But soon returns more bright and fair, to glad
With morning beams his lofty pathless top;
Whence opes a prospect wide of vast extent,
Of hills and dales, of friths and winding shores.
Beneath, the lake itself in part conceal'd;
The Clyde, with crowded sails and streamers gay;
Eastward the mazy Forth, meand'ring slow,
For largest fleets a deep and safe retreat;
Rich with the treasures of remotest climes;
Edina's lofty towers; the eastern coast;

Far

Far as the Cheviot-fells; the Western isles
Of Bute and Arran; Ailfa's conic rock;
Old Rothfay's royal towers in ruins laid;
Hibernia's verdant hills and fertile plains;
The rival height of great Plinlimmon, too,
In distant Wales: tho' Skidda, Cumbria's boast
Beyond the Solway frith, unnoticed stands;
While hills on hills still higher rise behind.

From the mountains on the east of Ben Lomond descends the river Forth, which, after a fine meandering course of almost forty miles, meets the sea a little below Stirling, where it forms the noble estuary called the *Frith of Forth*. A stately ancient bridge of four arches across the Forth, affords access to the town of Stirling from the north.

Stirling, a pretty extensive town, is situated on the south side of the Forth, upon a hill, which rising from the east, terminates abruptly in a steep rock, the site of the castle. In this town and its neighbourhood, considerable quantities of

of carpets, shalloons and other woollen stuffs are made. The manufacture of tartans, formerly carried on here to a great extent, has much declined of late. It is said to contain between four and five thousand inhabitants. Stirling can scarce be said to have foreign trade. Small vessels only can come up to it; but, owing to the winding course of the river, the navigation is exceedingly difficult. If the proposed canal along the banks of the Forth were carried into execution, it might advance the trade of this town, and improve the country around.

The church of Stirling is a magnificent Gothic pile, with an arched roof, supported by two rows of pillars. It serves at present as two separate places of worship. Upon the north side of the church stands an old building, called *Marr's Work*; near it is another similar, which belonged to the family of Argyle.

gyle. The ruins of these fabrics are a proof of their former magnificence.

Stirling castle, like that of Edinburgh, stands on a lofty rock, from which the town stretches to the east. This castle is of great antiquity; but its origin is not certainly known. We are, however, informed by ancient writers, that Agricola raised a fortification on the rock on which it stands. It was often the residence of the Kings of Scotland. Almost the whole minority of James VI. was spent here, under his tutor Buchanan. The outside of the palace, which is now converted into barracks, is richly and curiously adorned with grotesque figures. From the castle the view of the river is very remarkable. Such are the windings of the Forth, that though the distance between Stirling and Alloa be only four miles by land, yet by water it is above twenty. Through a few of the first peninsular sweeps, the eye can follow

low the course of the river; but afterwards, all seems confused and broken into patches of land and water.

A short way from Stirling is the village of *St Ninians*, where there is a considerable manufacture of linen and woollen goods. A little further east stands *Bannockburn*, also a manufacturing village.

The whole level tract called the Carse of Stirling, which stretches along the banks of Forth for about fifteen miles, is one of the richest spots in Scotland. Its soil is a strong clay, which, when properly cultivated, yields plentiful crops of wheat, barley, pease and other grain.

It has been thought *, 'That in ancient times, this whole tract was covered by the waters of the neighbouring frith, which by some unknown revolution

* NIMMO's History of Stirlingshire, p. 429.

lution has contracted its channel.' What confirms this conjecture is, that beds of various shells are found within a few feet of the surface.

In this neighbourhood is *Torwood*. Among the trees of this wood are seen the remains of a venerable oak, still known by the name of *Wallace's tree*, under which, it is said, that brave warrior frequently took shelter. Even in his days it was hollow. Its shade is supposed by some to have been a place of Druidical worship. Toward the Forth stands *Kinnaird house*, the seat of Mr Bruce, the celebrated Abyssinian Traveller. On the shore is the village of *Airth*; to the south of it are *Bothkennar* and *Carron Wharf*.

The *Campsey hills*, stretching from east to west, occupy the centre of the county. From the south side of these descends the *Carron*. Near its source is the

the ruinous castle of the famous Sir John the Graham. Two miles below, in a romantic vale, the river forms a fine cascade called the *Fall of Auchinbilly*. On the north side of the Carron, near its junction with *Bonny water*, stand the noted artificial hills of *Dunipace*. These two mounts, covered with trees, a church between them, and the river winding through the vale, form a scene beautifully picturesque.

On the banks of the Carron formerly stood a singular antique edifice called *Arthur's Oven*. It was a rotunda of about twenty feet in diameter, and twenty-two in height, open at top like the Pantheon at Rome. It is now entirely demolished.

The great forges of the *Carron Works*, are well worthy of notice. These, says Mr Gilpin, exhibit a set of infernal ideas. In one place, where coal

is

‘ is converted into coak, by discharging
‘ it of its sulphur, and the fire spread of
‘ course over a large surface, the vo-
‘ lumes of smoke, the spiry flames, and
‘ the suffocating heat of the glimmering
‘ air, are wonderfully affecting. How
‘ vast the fire is, we may conceive, when
‘ we are told, that it often consumes a
‘ hundred tons of coal in a day. At
‘ night its glare is inconceivably grand.
‘ The massy bellows which rouse the
‘ furnaces are put in motion by water,
‘ and receiving the air in large cylin-
‘ ders, force it out again through small
‘ orifices, roaring with astonishing noise.
‘ The fire of the furnace thus roused,
‘ becomes a glowing spot, which the eye
‘ can no more look at than at the sun.
‘ Under such intense heat, the rugged
‘ stone instantly dissolves in streams of
‘ liquid iron.’

In this large foundery, all sorts of cast
iron goods are made, from the most tri-

O

fling

fling article for domestic use, to a cannon that discharges a bullet of forty-two pounds weight. Above a thousand men are here employed; and from hence a great quantity of large cannon are exported to Russia, Germany and other foreign parts.

At the distance of half a mile from the river, between Carron-works and Falkirk, lies the field where Sir William Wallace, in 1298, cut his way through the midst of his victorious enemies, with the loss of the brave Sir John Graham, whose monument and epitaph are seen in the church-yard of Falkirk. The field is still called *Graham's Muir*. In this neighbourhood are the remains of a fortification or camp, called *Camelon*. Some authors have asserted, that this place was the site of an ancient city. To the east is the village of *Camelon*.

Falkirk

Falkirk is a handsome town, chiefly supported by the great markets for Highland cattle, called Tryfts, which are held in its neighbourhood thrice a-year. Fifty thousand head of cattle are sometimes sold at one tryft *. These are for most part sent into England, and fattened for the butcher.

Toward the Campsey hills stands the village of *Kilsyth*, noted for the defeat of the covenanters by Montrose in 1645.

The river *Endrick* descends from the north side of those hills, and passing the villages of *Killearn* and *Drymen*, falls into Loch Lomond near *Buchanan*. The celebrated George Buchanan was born in *Strathblane*, a valley on the south side of the Endrick, through which flows the rivulet Blane. A monument has lately been erected to his memory. At the

O 2

mouth

* NIMMO's History of Stirlingshire, p. 457.

mouth of the Endrick there is a good salmon fishing.

There are few counties where monuments of antiquity are so frequent as in Stirlingshire. Owing to its situation on the isthmus between the friths of Forth and Clyde, in the direct passage from the southern to the northern parts of the island, this county has been the scene of many memorable transactions. It was here the Scots generally made a stand in their retreat, or descended from their mountains to this pass, to repel those who came to invade them from the south. Hence many battles were fought in this neighbourhood, and scarce a spot has escaped unstained with human blood. In 1297, the brave Wallace defeated Cressingham at Stirling bridge. The year after, Edward, by his victory at Falkirk, thought he had fully broken the power of Scotland. In 1314, the decisive battle of Bannockburn, the most glorious

rious in the annals of Scotland, freed the nation from the English yoke: And, at the action of **Sauchie-burn**, the pusillanimous Monarch James III. lost his life, in 1488. The rebels, too, in 1746, put to flight the **King's troops**, under the command of **General Halley**, near **Falkirk**.

O 3 D U M

D U M B A R T O N.

THE county of Dumbarton, anciently called *Lennox*, is bounded on the north by Perthshire ; on the east, by Stirlingshire ; on the south, by Lanark and Renfrew shires ; and on the west, by Loch Lomond, beyond which lies Argyleshire. Its form approaches to that of a crescent, having one horn stretching to the north, and the other, which is the longest, turned to the East. Its greatest extent, in length, is about fifty miles ; in breadth, not above ten or twelve.

From its northern point descends the beautiful and extensive lake, called *Loch Lomond*, expanding as it advances southward. The beauties of this place have been so minutely, and, we think, so happily described in the little poem already mentioned,

mentioned, addressed to this lake, that we hope the reader will excuse our again borrowing its language.

LOMOND, of Scotia's lakes fairest and first !
 What single view thy beauties can explore ?
 With waving forest trees encompass'd round,
 Thy winding margin of a hundred miles *,
 With pebbles, shining smooth and white, inlaid,
 Contains an inland sea of depth profound :
 When calm, clear as the purest crystal spring ;
 At times, from cause unseen, lash'd to a foam,
 And swell'd on high, with wildly dashing waves †.

When from the south we view th' extensive scene,
 By hills immured, far to the north, thou hid'st,

O 4

'Mid

* The length of the lake is twenty-eight miles, and its breadth from seven miles, decreasing to three quarters of a mile. Were one to follow its windings, the circuit would exceed one hundred miles.

† In 1755, when the city of Lisbon was destroyed by an earthquake, this lake was exceedingly agitated. A boat, it is said, was thrown upon dry land, forty yards from its station in the lake.

'Mid mountains blue, thy distant head.
 Imprisoned, north and west, by mountains high,
 To force their way, thy billows beat in vain.
 But to the south, thy humbler bending banks
 Lowly recede before thy swelling flood :
 There, spreading wide and broad, thy rising waves
 Fair wooded isles *, of great extent, embrace,
 Th' abodes of men. There too, the bounding deer
 Quite peaceful range in groves of spreading yew :
 For, in this place, by nature fenced, secure
 From mortal harm, was nursed this sacred tree,
 Planted of old and reared with studious care ;
 To freedom sacred, and the public weal.
 Amid these groves, I tread with silent awe,
 From which the warrior cut the twanging bow,
 Whence swiftly flew the arrow winged with death,
 To pierce, unerring, each invading foe.
 High on the east, thy great Ben-Lomond rears
 His lofty head, and hides it in the clouds.

Thy

* There are thirty-three islands in the lake, several of which are inhabited, and adorned with antique ruins, shrouded amongst ancient yews. Others rise into high rocky cliffs, the habitation of the osprey or sea-eagle.

Thy surface smooth as glass, of tow'ring hills,
 Of rocks, of woods, th' inverted image bears,
 And seats of ancient Caledonian chiefs;
 Where spacious to the noon-day sun thou spread'st,
 Extending more and more thy wide domain *.
 Thy banks are graced with names of highest note;
 Immortal names, from age to age rever'd.
 NAPIER, of judgment deep, and thought profound,
 Invention happy, and conception clear,
 His country's boast, for Newton paved the way :
 BUCHANAN, elegant and pure, shone forth,
 By Rome adopted as her native son ;
 Though late appearing in degenerate times,
 Master of all her elegance refined :
 And SMOLLET, full of humour, who could paint
 The living manners as they rose to view,
 On sea or land, and make us smiling own
 The picture just. 'Twas near thy southern shore
 Their infant years were spent. Along thy banks
 In

* The Duke of Montrose has a fine seat on the south-east corner of the lake, where the Grampian Mountains terminate.—On the west side of the lake, where it is broadest, stands the beautiful seat of the family of Luss, screened by mountains and ancient wood.

In playful youth, unconscious of their powers,
They sportive roved; where, sacred to each name,
A tribute due, the monumental stone,
With sculpture decked, with praise well earn'd
 inscrib'd,
The grateful pride of kindred souls proclaims*.

The gleaming lake; the ever changeful sky;
Old Ocean's waves in view; the prospect wide;
The stream slow winding in the grassy vale;
The broken cliff abrupt; the waving wood;
The barren heath; the lofty mountain wild,
Whence soars the eagle on strong pinions borne;
Sublime the soul, and nurse her dormant powers.
Such, Lomond! thy vicinity can boast;
Such are thy pleasing scenes; and such thy sons!

The outlet of this lake is called the
Leven, on which there are three very
extensive printfields, for bleaching and
printing cottons.

This

* There is a pillar erected on the western banks
of the river Leven, in memory of Dr SMOLLET.

This river is the subject of a beautiful little ode by Dr Smollet, who thus introduces it : ‘ There is an idea of truth, ‘ in an agreeable landscape taken from ‘ nature, which pleases me more than ‘ the gayest fiction which the most luxuriant fancy can display *.’ The descriptive part of the ode is as follows :

Pure stream ! in whose transparent wave
My youthful limbs I wont to lave ;
No torrents stain thy limpid source,
No rocks impede thy dimpling course,
That sweetly warbles o’er its bed,
With white round polish’d pebbles spread ;
While lightly poised, the scaly brood
In myriads cleave thy crystal flood.
The springing trout, in speckled pride ;
The salmon, monarch of the tide ;
The ruthless pike, intent on war ;
The silver eel, and motled par †.

Devolving

* Smollet’s Miscellaneous works, vol. vi. p. 282.

† The par is a small species of trout.

Devolving from thy parent lake,
A charming maze thy waters make,
By bowers of birch, and groves of pine,
And hedges flower'd with eglantine.

The waters of the Leven are discharged into the estuary of the Clyde, below Dumbarton.

The borough of *Dumbarton*, which is an ancient, small, but well built town, stands on the east side of the river, over which there is a good stone bridge. Its principal manufacture is glass; but many of the girls and young women belonging to it, are employed in the neighbouring printfields already mentioned, along the banks of the Leven. The station of Dumbarton castle is singularly picturesque. It stands on a vast rock, with two tops of unequal height, steep on every side, rising to the height of five hundred feet, amid a plain, unconnected with any high ground for the space
of

of a mile, overlooking the Leven and the frith of Clyde. This is a place of some strength, and was in ancient times deemed impregnable. A garrison is still kept here. On the south side, at the bottom of the rock, facing the Clyde, and defended by a battery, stands the Governor's house. From this, with vast labour, the steps of a long stair, ascending between the cliffs, have been cut out of the solid rock. Near the top of this stair, in ancient times, there was a great iron gate or portcullis, that was drawn up or let down as occasion required. This gate so effectually divided the higher part of the castle from the lower, that tradition says, at one time the English held the south side, while the Scotch continued to possess the north. A square tower on the north side, built in the hollow between the two peaks, is said to have been the residence of Wallace, while the English were in possession of the south side. On the western top,
which

which is the highest and almost inaccessible, are the remains of a watch-tower, from whence seven counties may be seen. On the eastern peak stands the powder magazine.

The western part of the shire abounds with peat-morasses. In digging one of these near *Ardincaple*, a few years ago, some oak trees, sixty feet in length, and proportionally thick, were found quite entire. To the west of this is a peninsula, formed by the arm of the sea called *Gairloch*. Here stands *Roseneath*, surrounded by the Duke of Argyle's vast plantations.

Returning to *Dumbarton*, and proceeding eastward, we find *Kirkpatrick*, said to be the birth place of the tutelary saint of Ireland. The vestiges of the Roman wall built by Antoninus, extend from the frith of Clyde at this place, to the

the frith of Forth. It is called by the country people *Grabam's dike*, probably from the name of the hero who first broke through this formidable Roman wall: Or, as has also been conjectured, from its being the boundary fixed at the partition of the kingdom between Malcolm II. and Graham, towards the end of the tenth century. Almost in the same track with this wall, and for most part within the eastern horn of this county, runs the *Great Canal* which joins the Clyde and the Forth.

With regard to this important work, we have been favoured with the following accurate account from good authority, and with which we shall conclude our survey of this county.

' Among the various improvements
' that are, in this country, we may say,
' yearly bursting forth to view, giving
' new life and vigour to agriculture, to
' manufactures,

‘ manufactures, to commerce and navi-
‘ gation, perhaps no circumstance that
‘ has occurred of late years is likely to
‘ be productive of more general benefit,
‘ than the opening of the great inland
‘ navigation between the Forth and the
‘ Clyde. This vast and splendid under-
‘ taking, proposed above a century ago,
‘ and now happily completed, upon a
‘ scale far above the usual dimensions of
‘ the largest canals in England, will fa-
‘ cilitate the carriage of grain and of
‘ raw materials from the more fertile
‘ parts of the island, to those districts
‘ where manufactures and population
‘ require constant supplies. For this
‘ purpose, vessels constructed for foreign
‘ trade, can now be employed upon this
‘ Great Canal, provided their breadth
‘ of beam be somewhat less than twenty
‘ feet, and their draught of water be a
‘ little under eight. The extreme length
‘ of this Canal, from the Forth to the
‘ Clyde, is thirty-five English miles and

‘ a quarter, in the course of which navigation, the vessels that pass along it are raised, by means of twenty *locks**, to nearly the height of one hundred and sixty feet above the level of the sea. Passing afterwards upon the summit of the country, for above eighteen miles, they then descend, by means of nineteen locks more, into the river Clyde, and thence have free access to the Western Ocean.

‘ In the space of thirty miles, this canal is carried over no less than thirty-six rivers and rivulets, besides two great roads, by means of thirty-eight aqueduct bridges, all of them built with hewn stone, and very elegant. The road from Edinburgh to Glasgow passes under it near Falkirk, and over it,
P ‘ by

* A *lock* is an ingenious contrivance for raising or lowering vessels in an inland navigation, by means of artificial basons and sluices.

‘ by means of a draw-bridge, six miles
‘ from Glasgow.

‘ In the course of this inland naviga-
‘ tion, which may in general be per-
‘ formed in less than eighteen hours,
‘ many striking scenes present them-
‘ selves to view. But, above all others,
‘ the beautiful and romantic situation of
‘ the stupendous aqueduct bridge over
‘ the Kelvin, near Glasgow, four hun-
‘ dred feet in length, carrying a great
‘ artificial river over a natural one in a
‘ deep valley, where large vessels sail a-
‘ long at the enormous height of seven-
‘ ty feet above the bed of the river be-
‘ low, is one of the features of this great
‘ work, which gives it the pre-eminence
‘ over any one of a similar nature in Eu-
‘ rope. Yet, however singular and stri-
‘ king this may appear, with respect to
‘ picturesque beauty, the utility of this
‘ important communication by water,
‘ between the eastern and western sea,

‘ to

‘ to the commerce of Great Britain and
‘ Ireland, to the towns of Liverpool,
‘ Lancaster and Whitehaven; to Dublin,
‘ Newry and Belfast on the one hand;
‘ to Hull, Newcastle, Leith and Dun-
‘ dee on the other; and also to all ports
‘ in or near St George’s Channel, in
‘ their trade to Norway, Sweden and
‘ the Baltic; ought to be the chief con-
‘ sideration; and must be strikingly evi-
‘ dent; as it shortens the nautical di-
‘ stance in some instances eight hundred,
‘ and in others a thousand miles; afford-
‘ ing a safe and speedy navigation, parti-
‘ cularly at the end of the season, when
‘ vessels are too long detained in the
‘ Baltic, and cannot attempt the voyage
‘ round by the North Sea, without dan-
‘ ger of shipwreck, or of the market be-
‘ ing lost from delay. Such is the di-
‘ rection, magnitude, beauty and impor-
‘ tance of this commercial channel of
‘ conveyance, which runs nearly in the
‘ same track, and sometimes on the same

‘ ground, where a military fortification
‘ once forbade all intercourse and com-
‘ munication between the southern and
‘ northern parts of this island *.’

ARGYLE.

* ‘An enterprising shipmaster in Leith (Mr Joseph Brodie) has found out an ingenious contrivance, which will tend to render this canal still more extensively useful than it otherwise would have been. This gentleman has discovered, that by fixing a false keel to the real one, by means of strong hinges, so as to admit of being let down in nearly a perpendicular direction from the bottom of the real keel, or folded up by its side at pleasure, a vessel of considerable burden, though built on such a construction as to admit of sailing in the canal, when the false keel is drawn up, can be navigated in the open sea with as great steadiness, when the keel is let down, and lie as near the wind, as if it had been so sharp built as to require a much greater depth of water than the canal affords. Experiments made upon a small boat, have proved the efficacy of this contrivance in a very satisfactory manner.’

A R G Y L E.

THIS county is bounded, on the north, by the district of Lochaber in Invernessshire; on the east, by the shires of Perth and Dumbarton; on the south, and west, by the sea, by which it is entirely broken into islands and peninsulas. Hence its form is very irregular. Its length from the Mull of Cantyre to the north-eastern extremity is almost a hundred miles. Its breadth is very unequal; where greatest, it is about thirty miles; where least, only one or two.

To the north-west lies a large peninsula detached from the rest of the county. It contains the following districts: *Ardnamurchan, Morven, Sunart* and *Ardgowar*. The two last are remarkable for numerous veins of lead, which, how-

ever, are not very productive. There is a smelting house at *Strontian*, on the north side of Loch Sunart. This peninsula extends to the west, and terminates in a rocky promontory, called the Point of Ardnamurchan.

The mountains of Morven are celebrated in the songs of Ossian, as the country of Fingal.

Loch Leven, a branch of the bay called *Linnhe Loch*, and *Loch Etive*, another arm of the sea, form a peninsula, comprehending part of the district of *Appin*. Near the shore the lands are cultivated; but the high grounds are remarkably wild. A solitary cottage, named *King's house*, in the eastern part of this district, is almost the only habitation to be found in a tract of above thirty miles in circuit. Near the head of Loch Leven, lies the vale of *Glencoe*, noted for the cruel massacre of its unsuspecting inhabitants in

in 1691; an action which leaves a stain on the character of a Prince, otherwise estimable for his virtues.

In this neighbourhood the road from *Tyndrum* inn to Fort William, is, by various windings, cut across a steep mountain called the *Devil's Staircase*. The situation of *Tyndrum* has been thought by some to be the highest of any house in Scotland.

A few miles north from the mouth of Loch Etive, lies the site of *Beregonium*, said to have been the ancient capital of the Scots; but of which scarce a vestige now remains. Near it, too, on the opposite side of the lake, stands the venerable castle of *Dunstaffnage*, once a royal palace, and afterwards a seat of the Lords of the Isles. To the east from this old castle is *Connel Ferry*, a strait near the mouth of Loch Etive, which exhibits a singular ca-

taract of salt water, at the ebb and flood of every tide.

On the east side of Loch Etive is the district of *Glenorchy*. The village of Glenorchy stands at the north-east extremity of Loch Awe. The river Awe, the outlet of the lake, is discharged into Loch Etive, at the village of *Bunawe*, near which there is an iron-work. To the north-east of this river is the great mountain *Cruachan Ben*, which occupies the whole space between the lakes, a tract of about ten miles. It is perhaps the biggest single mountain in Scotland; a lofty, vast, lumpish mass. Its sides, along which a road is cut, are, in some parts, covered with woods of oak, of pine and of birch.

On the sea coast, to the south of Loch Etive stands the village of *Oban*, an excellent fishing station, where there is a custom-house and post-office. On the
side

side of a beautiful green hill, with a fine prospect towards the sea, stands Dunolly castle, once a residence of the Chieftains of *Lorn*, the tract which lies between Loch Etive and Loch Awe. The district of Lorn gives the title of Marquis to the eldest son of the Duke of Argyle. Almost opposite to Oban, is the little isle of *Kerrera*, noted for the death of Alexander II. while he lay there with a great fleet, meditating the conquest of the Hebrides, then possessed by the Norwegians. In this district is the lake of *Oich*, and a river of the same name, at the mouth of which there is a quarry of beautiful marble.

Loch Awe is one of the most beautiful lakes in Scotland. It is about thirty miles in length, and, in some parts, above two in breadth. In this lake are seen many fine little islands, tufted with trees. Near the village of *Dalmally*, at the head of the lake, is the castle of
Kilchurn,

Kilburn, built on a rock projecting into the water. This castle was fortified by the Earl of Breadalbin in 1745, in favour of Government; but the works have since been destroyed by lightning.

On the south side of Loch Awe is the district sometimes called *Argyle proper*.

Inverary is a royal borough, situated on the north-west side of *Loch Fyne*. This great inlet of the sea, near forty miles in length, receives and returns a tide on each side of the isle of Arran, which stands directly opposite to its entrance. It is beautifully indented with bays, and surrounded with mountains covered with wood. At certain seasons, its waters are filled with herrings, when it becomes the resort of numerous fishing vessels. In the neighbourhood of Inverary there is a considerable iron-work.

Inverary

Inverary Castle, the seat of the Duke of Argyle, is a superb modern building, in an antique or Gothic taste. The stone with which it is built, is a species of blue marble. It is situated near the mouth of the little river *Ary**, in a beautiful lawn, bounded behind the castle by a semicircular skreen of mountains; some of them wild and barren, and others adorned with wood. It thus stands in a kind of mountain recess, open in front, where it commands an extensive view over Loch Fyne. In the back ground, the mountain of *Duniquaich* forms a noble object. Its sides are shaggy and broken, and the interstices of soil are filled with trees and shrubs. On its summit stands a lonely watch-tower, which has a very picturesque effect. The gardens and pleasure grounds are elegant and extensive; and even the offices belonging to this princely seat, are in a peculiar

* The place takes its name, *Inver Ary*, from its situation at the mouth of this river.

peculiar style of grandeur. The structure and capacity of the barns in particular, while they show the climate unfavourable to the labours of the husbandman, must strike every stranger as somewhat singular. In these barns, there are two, three, or more tiers of cross beams. From each of these descend long poles or spars of wood, with pegs on all sides, about a foot in length, not unlike those on which apothecaries hang their empty vials. When the corn is cut down, without trusting to the weather to dry it in the field, it is carried into the barns, and stuck, sheaf by sheaf, upon the pegs, where, by a free circulation of air, it is kept in perfect safety.

Loch Fyne keeps nearly the same breadth for twenty miles south-west from Inverary. It then becomes about five miles broad, and bends southward. At this bend, it has been proposed to open

a canal in the level tract between Loch Gilp and Loch Crinan.

The long and narrow peninsula of *Cantyre*, is connected, on the north, by a narrow neck of land, to the mountainous district of *Knapdale*, adjoining to Argyre proper. Across this isthmus, which is scarce a mile broad, a canal might easily be cut. Over this narrow slip of land, it was usual for many ages to draw boats and small vessels, in order to avoid the dangerous navigation round the headland, amid shoals and currents. For this reason, probably, this place has obtained the name of *Tarbat*, signifying, in the language of the country, ‘*a carrying place.*’ Tradition, however, says, that this name originated from a more curious circumstance: ‘When Magnus the barefoot, King of Norway, obtained from Donaldbane of Scotland, the cession of the western isles, or all those places which could be furrounded in a boat

‘ boat, he added to them the peninsula
‘ of Cantyre, by the following stratagem:
‘ He placed himself in the stern of a
‘ boat, held the rudder, was drawn over
‘ this narrow tract, and by this species
‘ of navigation, wrested the country from
‘ his brother monarch.’

This peninsula is about fifty miles in length, from north to south, and from five to eight in breadth. To the south, it terminates in a great promontory, surrounded by a group of dangerous rocks, called the *Mull of Cantyre*. The soil is in general fertile, especially in the southern parts. The borough of *Campbelton* is situated on a bay towards the southern extremity. It is now a large town, having a considerable trade, chiefly owing to its being the general rendezvous of the fishing vessels, which annually visit the western coast.

On

On the shore are many magnificent caverns. One, which is said to have been the residence of St Kerran, is in the form of a cross. Three fine porticoes, like Gothic arches, form the entrance. On the floor, is a round basin, cut out of the rock, full of pure water. The fishermen often land to dress their victuals beneath this shelter. In this neighbourhood, some coal is worked, though not to a great extent.

Loch Loung is also a great arm of the sea, which communicates on the south with the frith of Clyde. Near its north-east extremity, is the vale of *Glencroy*, a wild and romantic situation. The two ranges of mountains which overhang this valley, approach each other, and between these the traveller is immured. Their stupendous height, and the roaring of numerous cataracts, that pour over their broken surface, produce an effect awfully sublime. The only house here
seen,

seen, is a lonely cottage, sheltered by a few trees, where resides the hind, who overlooks the numerous herds that graze on the mountains, and in the vale. South from this vale, between the head of Loch Lough and a branch of it, called *Loch Goyle*, is a curious flat topped hill, named *Argyle's Bowling Green*.

Between Loch Fyne and Loch Lough, lies the mountainous district of *Cowall*, a large peninsula, terminating in three head-lands, stretching towards the isle of Bute. On its eastern coast, at the mouth of the river, which descends from Loch Heck, stands *Kilmodan*, or *Kilmun*, an ancient Collegiate Church, founded by Sir Duncan Campbell, in 1442, since that time used as the burial-place of the Argyle family. A little to the south, is the castle of *Denoon*. In 1334, this fortress was taken from the English by Sir Colin Campbell, who was, in reward, made hereditary governor, and received

a grant of the adjacent lands. In this neighbourhood are many remains of Druidical temples and ancient forts.

The soil, in the high grounds of this county, though little fitted for cultivation, affords excellent pasture. Many fertile spots are, however, found, where the harvest would be rich and plentiful, were the climate more favourable; but here, as well as in many parts of the western isles, the crops are frequently injured by the rainy seasons; and the farmers are often constrained to carry their corn under shelter, as soon as it is cut down.

Q

R E N.

RENFREW.

THIS shire has the estuary of the Clyde to the west and north. On the east it is bounded by Lanarkshire, and on the south-west by the county of Ayr. Its form, if we include the mouth of the Clyde, approaches to a parallelogram, measuring about twenty-eight miles in length, from north-west to south-east, and thirteen in breadth.

The Frith of Clyde sweeps boldly round the north-west corner of this county, forming several beautiful bays and creeks. The town of *Gourock* is situated on one of these, and the Port of *Greenock* on another. In the neighbourhood of the first, there was lately a copper-mine worked. The latter is a considerable town, and a great resort of shipping;

ping; but its trade chiefly depends on Glasgow. The town, however, has greatly increased within these thirty years. There is here a sugar-house and a rope and sail manufacture. At the west end of the town a small fort was erected, some years ago, for the defence of the harbour.

A little farther up the Frith is *Port-Glasgow*, which has an excellent harbour, with a noble pier. Here many vessels belonging to Glasgow take in and unload their cargoes; though most of those that trade to the West Indies sail from Greenock, and return to that port. The herring-fisheries on the frith of Clyde are also a considerable branch of trade. The excellence of a Glasgow herring has long been proverbial.

The communication between the frith of Clyde and the eastern coast, is carried on by light vessels, which pass along the

great canal; but ships of considerable burden, bound for the Baltic or eastern sea, must set out toward the west, and then bend their course round the north of Scotland, a dangerous and tedious navigation, before they can reach the German Ocean.

About ten miles east of Port-Glasgow, near the mouth of the river Cart, stands *Renfrew*, the county town. Though situated on the Clyde, it has but little trade. Other towns, less ancient, have left it far behind in this respect. Robert II. had a palace at this place, of which nothing now remains but the ditch that surrounded it. This shire was first separated from Lanark, and made a distinct county by that Monarch. It was long the paternal inheritance of the Stuart Family, before they came to the throne, and it still gives the title of Baron to the Prince of Wales.

Opposite

Opposite to Renfrew, on the road to Port-Glasgow, there is a handsome bridge of ten arches, built exactly at the confluence of two rivers, both called by the name of *Cart*, but distinguished by the appellation of Black Cart and White Cart. It may be thought singular, that upon this bridge three roads meet, so that it has three ends or entrances.

South-west from the bridge, the *Black Cart* is joined by the *Grief*, a small river that descends from the neighbourhood of Greenock. The Black Cart arises from the lake called *Lochwinnoch*, or Castle Semple Loch. It is two or three miles in length, and of considerable breadth. On an island, in this lake, is seen an old fortress, called the *Peel* *. Upon its western banks is the town of *Lochwinnoch*, the inhabitants of which are, for the most part, employed in manufactures.

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* Peel is a name frequently given to old fortifications in Scotland.

factures. Near this village, at *Calderbaugh*, there is a curious rude statue of a man riding on an ass, called by the country people the *dumb proctor*. To the west towers the great mountain of *Mistylaw*.

On the same side of the lake stands the elegant house of *Castlesemple*, surrounded with pleasure-grounds and plantations. A few miles to the north-west is the village of *Kilbarchan*, also a manufacturing town, where there are several extensive bleaching fields.

Returning to the *Black Cart*, we find, on the south-east side, the village and coal-work of *Quarrelton*. The seam of coal is here of uncommon dimensions. In some parts it measures almost a hundred feet in thickness. This coal once took fire; but it has happily, many years since, been extinguished. Near this place there is a cotton mill. At the *Bridge*
of

of *Johnstone*, a new town is building on a neat plan.

In the neighbourhood stands the castle of *Elderslee*, the family inheritance of the famous Sir William Wallace.

The *White Cart* descends from the north-east angle of the county. It here passes the town of *Pollockshaw*, which is of considerable extent, and chiefly possessed by manufacturers. Near this place is *Langside hill*, noted for the defeat of Queen Mary, after her escape from Lochleven castle in 1568. A little further down the river is *Crookstone* castle, the once favourite retreat of the same unfortunate Princess. Strangers, to this day, are here shown the inauspicious yew, under whose shade, tradition says, she first commenced her fatal connection with her then beloved Darnley. To the west of Crookstone castle stands *Hawkbead*, an elegant villa belonging to the

Earl of Glasgow. In its vicinity there is a great printfield.

In many parts of this country, coal, lime-stone and iron-stone may be dug from the same mine. The coal is in general fulphurious, and immense quantities of pyrites or brasses (as the workmen call them) are found in the coal-mines. In the neighbourhood a copper-works has been erected, where those pyrites are used.

On the west side of the White Cart stands the town of Paisley.

Paisley is truly a manufacturing town. The names which many of the streets have obtained, are descriptive of the peoples employment. We have here Silk streets, Gauze streets, Lawn street, Inkle street and Cotton street; all these are wide and regular, and contain many good houses. The manufacture carried
on

on by the inhabitants is chiefly in silk and thread gauze; and such is the beauty of their work, that the Paisley gauzes have of late been displayed by the Princesses and Court Ladies, as part of their dress on a birth-day assembly. A multitude of women, and very young girls, are employed in the extensive cotton works in this place. Many of the principal manufacturers in Paisley having made considerable fortunes, have built elegant houses, in which they live in a style suitable to their easy circumstances. It may afford some idea of the extent of the operations carried on in this town, to be told, that several manufacturers in Paisley pay upwards of L. 500 Sterling a-week to their work people. 'A fertile country, cheap labour, a sober and steady people, abundance of coal, and water-carriage, were circumstances,' says a late writer, 'that first invited English manufacturers to settle in this country, and the justness of their views has been

‘ been fully evinced by the most prosperous success.’ The abbey, now, for most part, ruinous, has been a very superb building. The chapel on the south side, which belongs to the Earl of Abercorn, is still used as the family burial place. This old chapel is noted for an astonishing echo. The flap of a door is by it converted into a peal of thunder, and a melodious air, losing all idea of earthly music, becomes an enchanted strain. Paisley occupies nearly as much ground as Glasgow, though that city, perhaps, contains thrice its number of inhabitants.

A few miles to the south of Paisley is the village of *Neilston*, where there is a cotton work. Here, and at a neighbouring village called *Newtown*, there are several large printfields.

Between this and the south-east angle of the county, the ground is chiefly employed

ployed in pasture. The whole southern boundary of this shire is indeed a mountainous tract, except about Lochwinnoch, where there is much cultivation.

This shire is bounded on the north-west and north by the shire of Clydesdale; on the east by Renfrew and Glasgow; and on the south and south-west by the shire of West-Lothian. This county extends but the space of two wings, extending the north-west and south-west, and forming a vast bay at the mouth of the river of Clyde. Between its extreme points it measures about fifty miles; and its greatest breadth exceeds not twenty-seven.

A Y R.

The most northerly division of Ayr shire is the county of Renfrew. The north-west angle of this district, though mountainous, abounds with pasture. Glasgow, the city of Renfrew, is in the shire.

A Y R.

THIS shire is bounded on the west, north-west and north by the estuary of Clyde, and the shire of Renfrew; on the east by Lanark and Dumfries; and on the south-east and south by Kirkcudbright and Wigton shires. This county exhibits the form of two wings, extending to the north-west and south-west, and forming a vast bay at the mouth of the frith of Clyde. Between its extreme points, it measures about fifty miles; and its greatest breadth exceeds not twenty-seven.

The most northerly division of Ayrshire is *Cunningham*. The north-west angle of this district, though mountainous, affords rich pasture. Opposite to the isle of Cumbray is seen the village of
of

of *Largs*, noted for the victory gained by Alexander III. over the Norwegians in 1263. On the sea coast also are the villages of *Fairly* and *Kilbride*, surrounded by well cultivated fields. From the neighbouring mountains descends the river *Garnock*, which passing the villages of *Kilbirnie*, *Dalry* and *Kilwinning*, falls into the sea near Irvine. A little to the east of *Kilbirnie* is the village of *Beith*; and a few miles to the south-east that of *Dunlop* (sometimes pronounced *Delap*), celebrated for rich and delicate cheese. From this high ground descends the rivulet of *Anack*, which passes *Steuarton*, and the family seat of the Earl of *Eglinton*, near the village of *Kilmaurs*.

In this neighbourhood is *Kilmarnock*, a populous town, having a great manufactory of gloves, carpets, stockings, nightcaps, bonnets, and other woollen goods.

Irvine

Irvine is a royal borough, of which the chief trade is exporting coal to Dublin, and other parts of Ireland. A little to the north-west is *Saltcoats*, where salt is manufactured to a large extent from the sea water. From this is seen the ancient castle of *Ardrossan*, overlooking the whole bay. There are here several extensive coal-works, which are the chief source of commerce in the neighbourhood.

The river *Irvine* or *Irwin* descends from the mountains on the east, and after passing *Derval* and *Newmills*, near the family seat of the Earl of Loudon, and also *Galston* and *Riccarton*, winds on toward the town of *Irvine*, where it turns abruptly to the north, and returning almost parallel to its former course, falls into the sea close by the town.

A few miles to the south of *Irvine*, a narrow peninsula extends into the sea, and bending to the north, forms a fine natural

natural harbour, called *Troon bay*, which might, at a moderate expence, be made one of the best stations for shipping on the west coast.

Among the noblemen and gentlemens seats in the fine and populous country to the south of Irvine, is distinguished the family seat of the Earl of Dundonald, near the village of the name of *Dundonald*.

Amid the lofty mountains in the eastern angle of this shire, rises the river *Ayr*. After passing *Muirkirk*, where there is a considerable iron-work, the river is increased by numerous streams in its course through a rich country, till it is discharged into the sea at the town of *Ayr*.

The district on the south of this river is called *Kyle*. The principal branch which it receives from the south-east is
Lugar.

Lugar. In this neighbourhood we find *Ocbiltree*, the seat of the Earl of Dumfries, *Auchinleck* house, the property of Mr Boswell, and several other fine country seats.

The borough of *Ayr* is situated on a sandy plain, and built on both sides of the river, over which there is a bridge of four arches. It may be considered as the market town to all the adjacent coast. Its chief trade, however, is at present in coals and grain. Its fishery has greatly declined of late, and is, in a manner, given up. There are many good houses in the New Town of *Ayr*; and among the antique structures, is the ruin of a house of Dominicans, founded by Alexander II. in 1230, the first of that order in the kingdom. A mile north from the town, near the shore, there is a house called King's Chapel, founded by Robert Bruce for lepers. The leprosy was a disease so common in those days, as to be

be the subject of several parliamentary statutes. Happily it is now scarce known in Europe,

The south-east part of the district of Kyle, though less cultivated than the western part, is valuable for its fine pasture-ground, especially about the village of *New Cumnock*. The hills to the south-west, between New Cumnock and *Dalmellington*, exhibit various mineral veins, particularly those of lead.

To the south of the last mentioned village is *Loch Doon*, a lake of about six miles in length, and of considerable breadth. On an island in this lake stands *Balloch Castle*. Its waters descend, in a winding course, toward the north-west, and are discharged into the sea a little to the south of Ayr. This river *Doon* divides the district of Kyle from Carrick, the southern division of Ayrshire.

In the northern part of *Carrick* are the villages of *Maybole*, *Kirkmichael* and *Kirkoswald*. Near the latter are seen the ruins of *Crossregal* abbey, and the house of *Cullean*, an elegant seat of the Earl of *Cassilis*, where great improvements have lately been made.

Almost opposite to the rock of *Ailsa*, stands the village of *Girvan*, on a river of the same name. There are here some manufactures; particularly in the tanning of leather, and in making shoes and boots. The coast to the southward is but thinly inhabited, and the only village we find is *Ballintrae*, at the mouth of the river *Suncher*, which descends from the mountains on the north-east.

Between *Girvan* and the south-west point of the county, the hills afford many extensive sheep walks.

Ayrshire.

Ayrshire contains much ground capable of cultivation. The soil is chiefly a strong clay, which is greatly improved by lime; and fortunately this county abounds with lime-stone, coal and marl.

R 2 W I G.

W I G T O N.

THE county of Wigton is sometimes called *Upper* or *West Galloway*. It is bounded on the north by the shire of Ayr; on the east by that of Kirkcudbright; on the south and west by the Irish Channel. Its form is very irregular. Its greatest extent in any direction exceeds not thirty miles; and no part of it is more than twelve miles distant from the sea.

The northern part of the county is naked and mountainous, and is therefore called the *Moors*.

At the north-west angle of this shire, the sea flows in through a narrow pass, and spreads into a capacious basin called *Loch Ryan*.

On

On this bay stands the royal borough of *Stranraer*, admirably well situated for commerce, yet almost without trade. The town is pretty large and populous, containing many handsome houses. It had once an extensive herring fishery; but the shoals which used to crowd into Loch Ryan have now quite forsaken it. Its vicinity to Ireland has introduced the manufacture of linen; and its markets are chiefly attended for this article. Near this town stood the ancient monastery called *Sedes Animarum*, or Souls Seat.

Loch Ryan and the bay of Luce cut off the western division of this shire, called the *Rhynds* or *Rinns* of Galloway.

On the shore lies *Port Patrick*, a small town, confined by the sea on one side, and on the other by overhanging rocks and hills. It is noted for its ferry to Donachadee in Ireland, from which it is only twenty miles distant. *Portpatrick*

trick has a good harbour. The improvements made here are chiefly to be attributed to the exertions of the late Sir James Hunter Blair, that zealous and indefatigable friend to Scotland. It is computed that about eleven thousand head of cattle, and two thousand horses are here annually imported from Ireland.

The peninsula stretching to the south, terminates in a rocky promontory called the *Mull of Galloway*. This is reckoned the most southerly point of Scotland.

On the east of this peninsula is the great bay of *Luce*. Toward Stranrawer we find *Culborn*, the elegant seat of the Earl of Stair. His Lordship has adorned the neighbouring country with very extensive plantations. *Castle Kennedy*, a little to the east of Stranrawer, was originally a seat of the Earl of Cassilis. It stands on an elevated peninsula between

two lakes, which communicate by means of an artificial canal, over which there is a fine bridge before the castle. This seat fell into the hands of the great Earl of Stair, who laid out the pleasure-grounds in an elegant style: But it was burnt down by accident some years ago. So pleasing is its situation, screened by hills on the north, and surrounded by woods and lakes, that one can scarce help wishing to see it repaired, and again inhabited by its noble and patriotic proprietor.

Two streams descend from the mountains of Ayrshire, and uniting at the village of *New Luce*, form the river *Luce*. This river, after passing the ruins of Luce Abbey, and the small town of *Glenluce*, is discharged into the bay.

Proceeding along the east coast of the bay of Luce, we find the castle of *Sinnyness*, seated on a precipice overlooking

the sea. In the neighbourhood is the castle of *Mochrum*, surrounded with lakes and morasses.

The road along the coast is wild, rugged and destitute of wood. It becomes more agreeable toward *Port-William*, a neat little village with a good harbour.

This part of the county, lying between the bay of Luce and Wigton bay, is called the *Macbers*, and is noted for fine barley.

Merton castle, the seat of Sir William Maxwell, is situated on the side of a fine lake, commanding an extensive prospect of the sea, and the English and Irish coast. A little to the east is *Glasferton*, the elegant seat of the Honourable Keith Stewart. The south point of land is called *Barrowhead*.

To

To the north of Burrowhead is the *Isle of Whitborn*, a neat small town and harbour.

The royal borough of *Whitborn* is an inconsiderable town, without trade or manufacture. Its once famous Cathedral, the residence of the Bishop of Galloway, is now completely in ruins. To the west is *Appleby Loch*, near which is *Castle Wig*. On the coast appear the ruins of *Cruggleton* castle, noted as the retreat of the brave Wallace, when in that corner.

Galloway house, the elegant seat of the Earl of Galloway, stands on a fine bay, surrounded with pleasure-grounds. Near it are the village and harbour of *Garliestown*.

To the west are the ruins of *Sorby* and *Longcastle*; also the modern house of *Ravenstone*, and other family seats.

The

The *Tarf* and *Bladnoch* descending from the moors on the borders of Ayrshire, unite their streams at *Kirkcowan*, and thence the *Bladnoch*, winding to the south-east, falls into *Wigton* bay. On its southern banks stands the house of *Baldoon*, the property of the Earl of *Selkirk*. The parks of *Baldoon* have long been noted as the richest pasture in *Galloway*.

Wigton, the county town, and a royal borough, is pleasantly situated on a hill overlooking the bay to which it gives name. It has one very spacious street; but it possesses neither manufactures nor trade. Several attempts to establish a branch of the woollen manufacture have been made, but without success. A few sloops are here employed for the importing coals and lime, and exporting grain. On the south side of the town are the vestiges of its ancient castle. To the north-east lies a great morass called the

Moss

Moss of Cree. West from this moss is seen *Clary*, the ancient seat of the Galloway family.

On the river Cree stands *Newtonstewart*, which owes its rise and name to the noble family above mentioned. There are several manufactures here begun very successfully; and the river being navigable for small vessels to within two miles of the town, it is hoped that the trade of this place may soon increase. There is a handsome bridge over the Cree, on the east of the town. The mouth of the river affords a valuable salmon fishing.

K I R K-

KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

The shire or Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, together with the county of Wigton, formed the ancient province of Galloway. Kirkcudbright is bounded on the north-east by Ayr and Dumfries shires; on the south by the Solway Frith, and the Irish Sea; and on the west by Wigton and Ayr shires. Its form, though irregular, approaches to an oval. Its extent from north to south is nearly thirty miles; from east to west about forty-five.

The river *Cree* marks the western boundary of this shire almost through its whole course. Through Newtonstewart, formerly mentioned, passes the great military road between Stranrawer and Dumfries. This road cuts off the rich-

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est

est and best cultivated lands between it and the shore.

On the east side of the Cree, almost opposite to Newtonstewart, stands the ancient village of *Minnigaff*. Near it is *Kirrochtree*, the elegant seat of *HERON* of Heron. In this estate, and that of *Mochramore* adjoining, there are veins of lead, which have been worked for many years. Along the skirts of the hills on the east side of the Cree and of Wigton bay, there is much natural wood.

Creetown is a small port on the shore of the bay, where there are several sloops constantly employed in carrying sea-shells coastwise, or importing coal and lime from Cumberland in England, on the opposite shore. The shells are dug from banks without the sea-mark, and are esteemed a valuable manure.

The little river *Fleet* winds through a beautiful valley, skreened by woody hills, which

which open toward the south. On the west side of this river is seen the vestiges of a camp, a Druidical circle, and a vitrified fort. The picturesque ruins of the castle of *Cardonefs*, and the fine villas in its neighbourhood, attract the eye of every traveller.

The rising village of *Gatehouse*, is situated near the mouth of the Fleet. This town consists of three regular streets, all built within these thirty years. There is here a cotton-mill, where many hands find employment. Small sloops come up the river, within a short distance of the town.

The northern parts of this shire exhibit bleak and craggy mountains, which nevertheless afford much pasture, especially along the rivulet *Deugh*, and near the village of *Carspbairn*. From these mountains descends the river *Ken*, which passing the village of *Dalry*, flows southward

ward with an increasing stream, toward the town of New Galloway. On the banks of the Ken are many fine seats; among these are *Earlston*, the seat of the GORDONS, famous for their attachment to the Reformation principles,—*Glenlee*, the estate of Sir William Miller,—and *Kenmure* house, built on a beautiful circular mount, which has the appearance of being artificial.

The borough of *New Galloway* is a small inland town, entirely destitute of trade. It is, however, very pleasantly situated; and were the industry of the people encouraged, a branch of the woollen manufactory might be here established.

Below this place the river Ken expands into a fine lake, about four miles in length, and one in breadth. The river *Dee*, which descends from the west, joins the stream that issues from this lake.

Their

Their united waters take the name of that river, and flow to the south-west, till they meet the sea at Kirkcudbright.

The borough of *Kirkcudbright* possesses but an inconsiderable trade, notwithstanding its advantageous situation. The river has depth of water sufficient to admit ships of any burden to come up to the town; and Nature seems to have done more than half the work, to form a fine basin for a harbour. There is safe anchoring ground, at the mouth of the *Dee*, in two spacious and well protected bays. The town consists of two streets, which form a right angle with each other, and meet at the Town-house. It contains about one thousand inhabitants.

A little to the south of the town is the family seat of the Earl of Selkirk, situated on a peninsula which runs into a fine bay, at the mouth of the *Dee*. This spot, which possesses all the beauties that nature

nature and art can bestow, is sometimes insulated by the sea flowing round it in high tides; and having been formerly the site of a religious house, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, it has obtained the name of *St Mary's Isle*.

In a lake above the town, called *Loch Fergus*, are the ruins of a castle, said to have been the residence of the Lords or Princes of Galloway. In the neighbourhood are *Dundrennan* abbey and *Raeberry* castle. The first is noted for being the place where ill-fated Mary slept the night before she took shipping for Workington, on the opposite English shore; the other was the seat of the progenitors of the present Lord Kirkcudbright.

Proceeding eastward along the coast, we meet with *Orr*, a small river which descends from the hills that divide Galloway from Dumfriesshire. On the banks of this river, about a mile to the

S

south

south of the military road, is seen one of the most remarkable of those round hills called *Motes*, that are frequently met with in different parts of Scotland, and which are supposed to have been places where laws were promulgated, and justice administered. This mount rises from the plain, steep all around, except on the south, where there is an easy ascent. At the height of about an hundred feet, there is a level semicircular area, on the south side of which rises a beautiful round hill, flat at the top, and encircled with a trench, which divides it from the large semicircular area. Traces of antiquity are observed on other parts of the banks of this river; particularly two vitrified forts, one on each side of the river, towards the sea.

Near the village of *Dalbeaty*, the *Orr* receives a considerable stream from the north-east. On this rivulet Lord Herries had two seats, *Barclosh* and *Corra*.

Newabbey

Newabbey was built on an elevated plain on the west side of the Nith, about the end of the thirteenth century. The high mountain called *Criffel* may be said to overhang its beautiful ruins.

The lands on the coast are fertile and cultivated, particularly about *Kirkbean*, and round to the mouth of the small river *Southwick*. The soil in this county is enriched by a store of marl found in many of the lakes, and by a slimy matter brought from the shore, called sea fleech; but still more by lime brought over from Cumberland.

On the western banks of the Nith, a little above Dumfries, stands the castle of *Terregles*, the seat of the Earl of Nithsdale, pleasantly situated, and commanding an extensive prospect of a rich country on both sides of the river.

At the confluence of the Nith with the river Cluden, are the fine ruins of *Lincluden* College, founded about the middle of the twelfth century.

From Port Patrick to Dumfries there is no coal, limestone nor freestone. The want of these articles is a great check to manufactures. Agriculture is therefore the principal object with the inhabitants along the coast; and in the more inland parts, the rearing of cattle and sheep chiefly engages the attention of the husbandman. It is much to be regretted, that no branch of the woollen manufacture has ever been effectually established in this county, where so much excellent wool is produced.

D U M-

DUMFRIES.

THIS shire is bounded on the north by the counties of Lanark and Peebles; on the east by those of Selkirk and Roxburgh; on the south by the Solway Frith; and on the west by Kirkcudbrightshire. Its form may be fancied to resemble a wide-mouthed bottle, having its neck turned toward the north-west. Its length is about fifty miles; its greatest breadth thirty.

In the most northern part of the shire is the village of *Wanlockhead*, where there are considerable smelting houses, for the lead-ore dug in the adjacent hills, belonging to the Duke of Queensberry.

In the mountains to the west, arises the river *Nith*, which gives the name of *Nithsdale* to the part of the county through which it flows.

On this river we meet with the borough of *Sanquhar*, with its ruined castle. This place is remarkable for its coal-trade, and a manufactory of worsted mittens and stockings. On the opposite side of the river stands *Elliock* house, the birth place of the celebrated *James Crichton*, commonly called the 'admirable Crichton,' who is represented to have been one of the most accomplished characters of his own or any other times.

A little below, toward *Drumlanrig*, the country is well planted. The seat of the Duke of Queensberry is screened by woody hills, and adorned with beautiful gardens. In one of the parks here, Mr Gilpin saw a few of the wild cattle which anciently inhabited the Scottish woods.

These

These animals, he says, are milk white, except their noses, ears, and the orbits of their eyes, which are black. They are described by old writers as having manes*; but these have none. They resemble the common cow in many respects; only their form is more elegant, and they have a spirited wildness in their looks. When they run, instead of the clumsy cow-gallop, they bound like deer.

There is here a bridge over the Nith, and also another a little below, at *Thornhill*, which is a neat little town, pleasantly situated on the east side of the river, on an elevated plain. There are markets or fairs held here, principally for woollen yarn and coarse woollen stuffs. About the villages of *Penpont* and *Tynron*, and the little town of *Monyhive*, the

S 4 valleys

* *Gignit fylva Caledonia boves candidos, instar leonum jubatos; qui adeo feri sunt, ut domari non possunt. Pol. Virg.*

valleys are fertile and well cultivated, and the hills consist of beautiful green sheep walks.

Clofeburn castle is said to be one of the oldest inhabited castles in the south of Scotland. It is situated on the side of a lake. Near this place, in 1789, was found an antique metal vessel, holding about an English pint, and in shape resembling a modern cream pot. At *Clofeburn* there are extensive lime-works; and a little below, there is a fine bridge over the Nith.

Near *Jarborough* castle, on the banks of the river Cairn, are some earthen mounds called *Bowbutts*, where the vassals of the ancient Barons of *Glencairn* used to exercise in the practice of archery. Similar butts are seen in various parts of Scotland. The parish church of *Holywood* is built on the site of an ancient Abbey. This place takes
its

its name from an oval, formed of great stones, around which, tradition says, there was a Druidical grove of oaks. At a short distance to the east, but on the opposite side of the river, is the village of *Amisfield*, and an old tower, the ancient seat of the family of CHARTERIS.

The river *Cairn*, called also *Cluden*, for some miles, forms the western boundary of the county, and unites its stream with the Nith, a little above Dumfries. The tide at the mouth of the Nith forms a fine estuary, and flows in with such rapidity, that a man, though mounted on a good horse, can scarce escape, if overtaken by it.

The borough of *Dumfries* is the capital of the southern counties. It is situated on a rising ground, on the eastern banks of the Nith, amid an extensive tract of rich and fertile fields. It is a regular and well built town, the houses
being

being in general composed of a fine red freestone. At the upper end of the town, in ancient times, stood the castle, near the station of the present new church. The grammar-school has long been known as a respectable seminary of useful learning. An infirmary has also been lately established here, at the opposite end of the town. The inhabitants were remarkable, in former times, for their zeal in religious matters. In the church-yard of St Michael, and in several burying grounds in the neighbourhood, are seen the monuments of the martyrs of the country. ‘ In the reign of James II.’ says Mr Pennant, ‘ powers were given to an inhuman set of miscreants, to destroy those people upon suspicion of disaffection; or for even declining to give answers declarative of their political principles; and such as refused were instantly put to death. Many poor peasants were shot on the moors or shores, wherever their enemies

‘ enemies met with them. Perhaps enthusiasm might possess the sufferers, — but an infernal spirit had possession of their persecutors.’

Over the Nith there is an ancient bridge of nine arches. In 1789, this bridge being in disrepair, it was agreed to erect a new one at the expence of the neighbouring gentlemen, with the assistance of Government.

Proceeding down the Nith, toward its mouth, we find *Caerlawrock* castle, situated near the shore. Though this fort was often besieged by the English, it is still in better condition than most of the ancient fortresses in the kingdom. The front is very elegant, and richly adorned with sculpture. It is surrounded by a double ditch, broad and deep; and before the use of fire-arms, was deemed impregnable. This is the ruin of what is called the New Castle, founded about

about the 1425, in the reign of James I. The site of the old castle is easily traced in a wood about three hundred yards south from the present building.

Locher Moss is a morass of ten miles in length, and three in breadth. From the vast oak-trees that have been here dug up, it is evident that this morass has been, at some distant period, a great forest. Canoes and anchors have been frequently found here; and as the present morass is but little elevated above flood-mark, we are led to believe, that it has once been covered with the sea.

On the coast is the village of *Ruthwell*. In the church of this place are seen the fragments of a curious antique obelisk, ornamented with rude carving. It appears to have been, when entire, about twenty feet high.

A little to the west stands *Comlongan*, an ancient castle still very entire. It is a feat of Lord Stormont, and the birth place of Earl Mansfield.

The district to the north and east is called *Annandale*, from the river Annan, which flows through it.

The mountains in the northern part of this district, sometimes named *Moffat bills*, are the highest in the south of Scotland. From these descend, in different directions, and from sources but little distant from each other, the Tweed, the Clyde, and the Annan. The *Annan* flows in a southerly direction; and after receiving many auxiliary streams in a course of thirty miles, is discharged into the Solway Frith.

The town of *Moffat* has a manufacture of coarse woollen stuffs: But it is chiefly supported by its mineral springs, which attract

attract much genteel company. This town contains many good houses, built for the accommodation of those who visit this place for the sake of the waters. These are of a very bracing quality, and are accounted the strongest in Britain. There are here two springs, of which the *Moffat Spa* is the weakest, the *Hertfell* the strongest. A few miles east from the mountain of Hertfell, there is a cataract called Grey Mare's Tail.

The country is barren of wood, except in the neighbourhood of the town; and the ground is, in general, employed in feeding sheep and black cattle. In the moss called *Drumcrief*, large oak and birch trees are frequently dug up quite fresh and entire, though they must, without doubt, have lain there for many centuries.

The borough of *Lochmaben* is situated on the west side of the Annan, nearly opposite

opposite to the place where the united streams of *Yea* and *Kinnet* fall into it. And on the east side of the river stand *Lockerby* and *Blackford*. A little below is the village of *Ecclefechan*, noted for its great monthly market for cattle. Not far to the west of this village we find *Hoddam castle*, said to have been founded in 1437, by Lord Herries. A mile to the south of this castle is the tower called *Repentance*. A pleasant enough reply of a shepherd's boy to Sir Richard Steele, founded on the name of this tower, is mentioned by some writers: 'Sir Richard having observed a boy lying on the ground, and very attentively reading his bible, asked if he could tell him the way to heaven?' 'Yes, Sir,' replied the boy, 'you must go by that tower.'

Most of the ancient buildings in this part of the country are surrounded with venerable trees, and mantled with ivy; circumstances

circumstances that give them a gloomy and solemn appearance, favourable to the ideas of witches, hobgoblins and apparitions. Of these innumerable stories are currently reported, and firmly believed by the common people.

Toward the borough of *Annan*, the country is well cultivated. This town has some trade, and annually exports a considerable quantity of grain. There is a fine bridge over the Annan at this place; and at a small distance the Solway frith, here called *Bowness Water*, is forded at ebb tide, by people passing to or from the western parts of Cumberland.

The inhabitants of this county, along the coast, are said to have been formerly expert in what is called salmon hunting; but this kind of sport is now little known. 'The sportsman (says Mr Pennant) is mounted on a good horse,
' and

and furnished with a long spear; he discovers the fish in some shallow channel; pursues it full speed; turns it like a grey-hound, and after a long chase, seldom fails to transfix it.' Besides the salmon fishery, the frith affords excellent flounders, which are commonly as large as ordinary turbot.

Esdale is the most easterly division of Dumfriesshire.

The river *Es*, after a course of about twenty miles, reaches the town of *Langholm*, from whence it winds through many woody and rich fields toward the Solway Frith.

Near the mouth of the *Es* is the village of *Gretna Green*, the noted resort of those young ladies and gentlemen of England, who have the misfortune to differ with their parents and guardians, on the subject of marriage; and where

T

the

the nuptial ceremony is performed by a blacksmith. The village is concealed by a grove of trees, which may be called the Idalian grove; and the motto of this place might be,

Vetuerē patres, quod non potuerē vetare.

To the east descends the river *Sark*, which for several miles forms the boundary with England. On the banks of this river stands *Springkell*, the elegant seat of Sir William Maxwell. On the opposite side of the river is the great morass called *Solway Moss*. In 1771, there was a dreadful eruption of this morass, which overflowed the adjacent country for several miles.

R O X-

R O X B U R G H.

THIS shire is sometimes called *Teviotdale*. It is bounded on the north by Berwickshire; on the east and south by Northumberland and Cumberland in England; on the west by Dumfries and Selkirk shires. Its form is irregular. It measures at most about thirty miles from north to south, and from east to west, nearly the same.

In the north-west point of the shire, in the mountainous tract between the rivers Leader and Gala, the ruinous towers of *Culmslie*, *Hilslap*, *Langshaw*, and some others, are seen scattered amid the bleak hills.

The Tweed enters the county at the mouth of the river Ettrick. Its banks

are adorned with fine hanging woods, and in various parts with rocky precipices called *beughs*. The valleys, or haughs, through which it flows, are rich and beautiful; such is the diversity of enchanting scenery here displayed, that the traveller, in a fine summer day, can scarce help naturally exclaiming, in the words of the old song:

‘ How sweet are the banks of the Tweed!

Near the village of *Darnick*, there is a good bridge over the Tweed. Two miles below, stands the town of *Melrose*, and close by it the magnificent remains of Melrose Abbey, the finest of any in Scotland. ‘ This abbey (says Mr. Pen-
‘ nant) was founded, in 1136, by Da-
‘ vid I. and dedicated to the Virgin
‘ Mary. The ruins are of uncommon
‘ beauty. Part is at present used for
‘ divine service; the rest uncovered.
‘ The south side, and east window, are
‘ elegant beyond description. The
‘ church

‘ church had been in the form of a cross,
 ‘ and of great extent.’ The cemetery
 contains the dust of many great men.
 Alexander II. it is said, is buried under
 the great altar. James Earl of Douglas*,
 slain at the battle of Otterburn, in 1388,
 was here interred with great pomp. ‘ The
 ‘ situation of this religious house (adds
 ‘ the same gentleman), is remarkably
 ‘ pleasant, seated near the Tweed, and
 ‘ shaded with trees, above whose summits
 ‘ soar the venerable ruins, and the trica-
 ‘ pitated top of *Eildon hills*.’ On one
 of the three summits of these hills are
 the traces of a Roman camp; and simi-
 lar appearances are frequently met with
 in the neighbourhood.

At the north bottom of these hills
 stands the village of *Newstead*. A mile
 farther down the Tweed is seen *Old Mel-
 rose*, said to have been the site of an ab-

F 3 bey

* The nobleman whose death is lamented in the
 celebrated ballad of *Chevy chase*.

bey of Culdees in 664. ' It is now reduced (says the writer last quoted) to a single house, standing on a sort of promontory, peninsulated by the Tweed; a most beautiful scene; the banks lofty and wooded, varied with perpendicular rocks jutting out like buttresses from top to bottom.' The precipice which fronts Old Melrose, on the opposite side of the Tweed, is called the *Gate Heugh*.

Proceeding down the river, we find several old buildings or castles, the seats of ancient border-warriors. That of *Littleiden* is a round tower, placed on a cliff above the river; and was in former times a border-house of the Kers.

A few miles below stands the *Fleurs*, a magnificent seat of the Duke of Roxburgh, rising amid wide extended plantations; and near the place where the Teviot falls into the Tweed, may be traced

traced the remains of the once strong castle of *Roxburgh*, seated on a lofty knoll. King James II. here lost his life, in 1460, by the bursting of a cannon.

The river *Teviot* descends from the mountains in the south-west angle of the county, and passes almost through the centre of this shire, winding beautifully through wide and fertile valleys, till it mixes its waters with the *Tweed* near *Kelso*.

Kelso is a neat and populous town, though not a royal borough. It has a good weekly market for corn. There is here a very handsome bridge of six arches over the *Tweed*, near its confluence with the *Teviot*. The Abbey of *Kelso*, of which the magnificent ruins still remain, was founded by David I. in 1128. ‘ The environs of *Kelso* (says Mr Pennant) are very fine: The lands consist of gentle risings, inclosed with
T 4 ‘ hedges,

‘ hedges, and extremely fertile. They
 ‘ have much reason to boast of their
 ‘ prospects. From the *Chalkbeugh* is a
 ‘ fine view of the forks of the rivers;
 ‘ Roxburghhill; the handsome seat of
 ‘ Springwoodpark; and at a distance,
 ‘ the Fleurs. From *Pinnaclebill*, is seen
 ‘ a vast extent of country, highly culti-
 ‘ vated, watered with long reaches of
 ‘ the Tweed, and well wooded on each
 ‘ margin.’ Much wheat is raised in this
 neighbourhood; and the fleeces of the
 sheep are remarkably fine.

In the north-east angle of the county is
 seen the house of *Stitchbill*, the seat of Sir
 James Pringle, and the birth place of Sir
 John Pringle, late President of the Royal
 Society of London. A little to the south-
 east, is the village of *Ednam*, where our
 celebrated poet THOMSON was born.
 To the west stands the little town of
Smalholm, with its ancient tower.

In

In the low tract between Kelso and Berwick, it has been proposed to open a navigable canal. A survey and estimate of this important work have been made under the auspices of a patriotic Nobleman *. The advantages that would arise from such a communication with the sea, to an inland country destitute of coal and lime, are obvious at first sight; and it is hoped the enterprize will be carried on with that vigour and alacrity, on the part of the gentlemen concerned, which seems a distinguishing feature in the character of the spirited friends of Scotland in the present age.

In the eastern part of the county is the village of *Yetholm*, from which the ground rises to the ridge of the Cheyiot hills on the south.

On the banks of the river *Jed* are several large caverns, which were the strong

* The Earl of BUCHAN.

strong holds, or hiding places of ancient border warriors.

Jedburgh, which is a royal borough, situated nearly in the middle of the county, on the banks of this river, whence it derives its name, is a considerable town, containing about two thousand inhabitants. It has a good market for corn and cattle, and is the seat of the courts of justice for the county. On the west side of the river, near its junction with the Teviot, stand the beautiful ruins of an abbey, founded by King David. A part of this ancient pile still serves for a parish church.

In the adjacent country there are many fine seats. At the confluence of the Jed with the Teviot, stands the elegant villa of *Mount Teviot*, belonging to the Marquis of Lothian. Not far from this is *Ancrum* house, overlooking the junction of the river *Ale* with the Teviot.

The

The banks of both these rivers are justly celebrated for beauty and fertility.

From the south the Teviot receives *Rule* water. About a mile above the place of their junction stands *Minto Tower*, on a rugged and picturesque rock, round which the Teviot winds with a bold sweep.

Farther up the river stands the town of *Hawick*, in a most romantic situation. The scenery is composed of wooded rocks, cataracts and bridges.

From this place to the south, are seen two high conical hills, named *Maiden-paps*, adjoining to the ridge of Cheviot hills.

There are, in this tract, many extensive sheep-walks, and great store farms. From thence, through the whole southern angle of the county, called *Liddisdale*,

dale, from the river *Liddel*, the country admits of little cultivation, and is chiefly employed in pasture. The course of the *Liddel* is southward; the only river in the county that flows in that direction. It joins the *Esk* near *Solway mofs*.

S E L

S E L K I R K.

THIS county is bounded on the north, by Edinburghshire; on the east, by that of Roxburgh; and on the west, by Peeblesshire. Its form is very irregular. From north to south, it measures about twenty miles; from east to west, it is little more than half that extent, where broadest.

The river Tweed enters this county, near the seat of Lord *Elibank*, and crossing it towards the east, is augmented by the streams that descend from the heathy and rugged hills of *Caddon-head*. At the north-east angles of the shire, the Tweed receives the water of *Gala*. Near their junction, is the village of *Gala-sbiels*, in which a prosperous manufacture of woollen cloth is carried on. The
progress.

progress the inhabitants of this place have made in this trade, notwithstanding their distance from a market-town, is a strong proof of their genius and industry. The stuff they commonly make, has obtained the name of Galashiels-grey, being of a dark colour, and coarse texture. Lately, flannels and superior cloths have been tried; and the attempt has been attended with tolerable success.

In the neighbourhood of the village, is the house of *Gala*, shrowded in wood; and about a mile above, stands the old tower of *Torwoodlie*, now a ruin. On a knoll, overlooking the river, the present possessor has built an elegant modern house. The plantations, and the cultivation of the fields in the vicinity of the village, and of *Torwoodlie*, form a striking contrast with the sterility of the adjacent hills.

In

In the south-west part of the county, the Tweed receives the united streams of Ettrick and Yarrow, in view of the family feat of *Sunderlandball*, which is beautifully situated near the confluence of this river with the Tweed. Further up the Tweed, are several gentlemens seats, on both sides of the river. Among these, are distinguished the handsome modern building of *Yair*, and the house of *Fairnilee*.

Some miles to the south, on the river Ettrick, stands the borough of *Selkirk*. This town, though not of considerable extent, contains some good houses. Its shoemakers have been celebrated for their good services to their country in the border wars, in a popular song, 'The *Souters* of Selkirk;' and boots and shoes are still its chief manufacture.

Yarrow rises in the western part of the county, from two contiguous lakes, about

bout six miles in circuit, called *St Mary's Loch*, and *Loch of the Lows*. Here we find the ruin of *St Mary's Chapel*. The *Yarrow*, winding round the house of *Newark*, flows into *Ettrick*, near the family seat of *Philipbaugh*.

The river *Ettrick*, is formed by the confluence of all the streams that are poured from the mountainous region in the south-west angle of the county. Amid these mountains, we find *Buccleugh*, which gives the title of Duke to the noble family of *Scott*.

Ettrick is truly a pastoral stream, which seems to play round the promontories of the numerous mountains that guide its course. From the woods formerly on the banks of this river, the shire obtained the name of *Ettrick Forest*. At present, few trees are to be seen in the high parts of this county. Sheep

and

and cattle are its chief riches ; and with these it every where abounds.

It is no little recommendation to the rivers we meet with here, that almost every one of them is the subject of some pastoral Scottish ditty. Tweed Side, Ettrick Banks, and Gala Water, are not among the least pleasing of those elegant, though simple melodies.

U PEEBLES.

P E E B L E S.

THIS shire is sometimes called *Tweed-dale*. It is bounded on the north, by the county of Edinburgh; on the east and south, by Selkirk and Dumfries shires; on the west, by Lanerkshire. Its greatest length, from north to south, is about twenty-eight miles; its breadth, above eighteen. Its form is remarkably irregular.

In the northern part of this shire, is the river *Lynne*, which rises on the south side of the Pentland hills. This river, after passing the town of *Linton*, meets the *Tweed*, near the centre of the county. A little below *Linton*, is *Romanno*, once the seat of Dr Pennycuik of facetious memory. From the north, descends the water of *Eddlestone*, which
gives

gives name to a populous village on its banks, and continues its course through a hilly country, till it flows into the Tweed at Peebles.

Peebles is a very ancient royal borough, pleasantly situated on the river Tweed, over which it has an ancient bridge. Though Peebles cannot boast of much trade, yet it has some manufacture of carpets and serges, and a weekly market for corn and cattle. In the monastery at this place, Alexander III. and other Scottish Kings, are said frequently to have resided. Part of this ancient fabric served as a place of worship, before the present elegant parish church was built. In the vicinity of the town, there are several genteel houses, and the fields are well cultivated. On a projecting rock, near the Tweed, stands *Neidpath Castle*, an old fortalice embosomed in ancient wood.

In the south-east angle of the shire, is the family feat of the Earl of *Traguir*; above which is seen the grove or *bush* of trees, celebrated in a favourite Scottish ballad. From this place, toward the south, the view is circumscribed by the desert heights of *Blackhouse*, and the dreary region of *Minch Moor*. Near the village of *Innerleithing*, on the north side of the river, there is an excellent medicinal spring, rising into celebrity.

The southern part of the county comprehends the rugged and heathy mountains of *Tweedsmuir*. From innumerable springs, amid these sterile mountains, the beautiful river *Tweed* derives its source. It passes through the centre of this county, and almost divides it into two equal portions. On its banks, are here seen several ancient castles and seats; among which are distinguished the castle of *Drumelzier*, and *Stobo house*, noted for

a slate quarry in its vicinity. Opposite to Stobo, there are very extensive plantations of fir.

At *Gatehope-know*, about eight miles below Peebles, the river passes out of the shire, and, rolling on toward the east, carries fertility and beauty in its track. Through a devious course of almost seventy miles, the whole waters of the country tend toward this river, like the branches of a vein to its main trunk, and pouring in from either side, contribute to increase its stream.

This county possesses but an inconsiderable proportion of arable ground. Its hills, however, abound with pure and salubrious springs, and are rich in sheep and cattle.

L A N E R K.

THIS shire is bounded on the north, by the county of Dumbarton; on the east, by Stirling, Linlithgow, Edinburgh, and Peebles shires; on the south, by Dumfries; and on the west, by Ayr and Renfrew shires. Its form may be imagined to resemble a vine leaf; the mouth of the Clyde, representing the stem, the course of that river, the middle vein, and the lesser streams, its collateral branches. Its extent, from north to south, is about forty miles; from east to west, at most, thirty-six.

The river *Clyde*, descending from the southern part of this county, divides it into two almost equal parts; and, after a course of about fifty miles, meets the tide a little below Glasgow.

GLASGOW,

GLASGOW, from its size, as well as from the beauty and regularity of its buildings, justly esteemed the second city in Scotland, is situated on the north banks of the Clyde. In its numerous streets, we every where meet with elegant modern houses, which announce the opulence of their possessors. There are here eleven churches. Three of these are contained in an ancient Abbey, one of the most entire specimens of Gothic architecture, to be found in Scotland. Here are also several charitable establishments; the chief of which are, the Merchants Hospital, Hutchison's Hospital, and that of the Town. The College is a commodious and elegant building. The students are instructed in all the usual branches of science; and the names of many of the Professors in Glasgow College, rank high in the republic of letters. The commercial, as well as the literary world, have already reaped no small benefit from the en-

lightened views, and indefatigable industry of some of the gentlemen of this place.

A considerable trade was formerly carried on in this city, in tobacco and rum; but it has been of late on the decline. The adventurous spirit of the inhabitants, however, prompts them continually to strike out new paths of industry. The cotton manufactures are daily increasing, and now rival those of Manchester, in cheapness and elegance*. Immenſe quantities of various kinds of goods, cotton, linen, and woollen ſtuffs, ſhoes, boots, ſaddles, and harneſs, are annually exported. A pottery is alſo carried on; which has of late been ſo much improved, that it now emulates, almoſt in every article, the beauty and elegance of the Staffordſhire ware. Among

* It is ſaid, that cotton goods are manufactured in Glaſgow and its neighbourhood, to the value of about two millions Sterling yearly.

mong the manufactures of this place, that of printing-letters well deserves notice. The types cast in the Glasgow foundery, have long been distinguished for their neatness and regularity. The glass manufactory is also here carried on very successfully. There are two glass-works, one for bottle glass, the other for crystal. It is computed that the city of Glasgow, and its suburbs, contains about sixty thousand inhabitants.

Between the great canal and the city of Glasgow, there is likewise a communication, by a cut of similar dimensions with the great canal, terminating in a fine basin on the high ground called *Hamilton-hill*, near the city. Since the accomplishment of these important works, the trade of Glasgow has constantly increased. Indeed, when we consider how much commerce has advanced within these few years, and what great advantages must continue to result from
an

an easy inland navigation between both seas, to merchants who possess an enterprising spirit, and an extensive capital, there is every reason to hope that this city may soon arrive at a very high pitch of commercial eminence.

The city of Glasgow has also the advantage of another canal, which, though much less than the Forth and Clyde navigation, is of no small benefit, as an easy conveyance for supplying the inhabitants with coals. This is called the *Monkland canal*. It extends from Glasgow about ten miles east, and terminates at the coal-works near the village of Airdrie. It has been proposed to unite this with the great canal, and to bring the small river Calder into it; but should that river be insufficient for the necessary supply of water, from surveys that have been made with a view to that design, it is certain that a plentiful supply can be obtained by turning a part of the Clyde
into

into it. In that case, the waters of the Clyde would fall partly into the Western Ocean, and partly into the Eastern Sea.

Proceeding up the river from Glasgow, the country is rich and well cultivated. *Bothwell castle*, now in ruins, stands on an eminence which overlooks the Clyde. Some of its walls are still remaining, which measure fifteen feet in thickness, and sixty feet in height. This vast fabric was once the abode of a man, the most notoriously marked of any in the annals of Scotland, for the audacity and splendour of his crimes. Between this castle and the priory of *Blantyre*, on the opposite side of the Clyde, there is said to have been in ancient times a subterraneous passage under the river. A little above stands *Bothwell bridge*, noted for the defeat of the Covenanters by the Duke of Monmouth in 1679.

East

East from Bothwell castle, in an elevated situation, stands the *Kirk of Shots*, amid a wild and barren country. This dreary waste is covered with heath, and though a high situation, is flat, and very marshy in many places. It is chiefly employed as sheep walks; and notwithstanding the vicinity of coal and lime, seems scarce capable of cultivation. This want is, however, compensated by the abundance of iron-stone and coal, which are here brought together by the hand of nature. Nor is this advantage confined to the barren tract in the north-east corner of the shire. The whole county abounds with these valuable minerals; and two iron works are erected on the banks of the Clyde; one a little above Glasgow, and another at Cleland near Hamilton. But the most considerable work of this kind in the county is that of *Cleugh*, a few miles south-east from the Kirk of Shots. A village is here built, for the accommodation of the workmen.

It

It is called *Wilsontown*, from the name of the proprietors.

The small borough of *Lanerk* is situated on the brow of a hill, on the north-east side of the Clyde, commanding a fine prospect over the river. In this neighbourhood are some of the greatest cotton manufactories in Scotland. The Clyde, near this place, runs for several miles between high rocks covered with wood; and in its course exhibits many astonishing cataracts. At *Stonebyres*, the river is confined within a very narrow bed, and makes one entire shoot, falling about sixty feet over a perpendicular rock, the water then pouring over another precipice, is dashed into a deep chasm beneath. ‘This great body of water,’ says a late traveller, ‘rushing with horrid fury, seems to threaten destruction to the solid rocks.—The horrid and incessant din with which this is accompanied, unnerves and overcomes the heart.’

‘ heart.—At the distance of about a mile,
‘ from this place, you see a thick mist,
‘ like smoke, ascending to heaven over
‘ the stately woods. As you advance
‘ you hear a fullen noise, which soon af-
‘ ter almost stuns your ears. Doubling
‘ as you proceed toward a tuft of wood,
‘ you are struck at once with the awful
‘ scene, which suddenly occurs upon
‘ your astonished sight. Your organs of
‘ perception are hurried along, and par-
‘ take of the turbulence of the roaring
‘ water. The powers of recollection re-
‘ main suspended by this sudden shock;
‘ and it is not till after a considerable
‘ time, that you are enabled to contem-
‘ plate the sublime horrors of this ma-
‘ jestic scene.’

The waterfall at Corehouse, called
Cora-lin, is no less remarkable. The wa-
ter is here precipitated at least a hun-
dred feet between two vast rugged pre-
cipices. On a pointed rock overhang-
ing

ing this stupendous scene, stands a solitary tower. This ancient fortalice was lately inhabited ; but it is now ruinous. In floods, the rock and tower have been observed to shake in such a manner as to spill water in a glass standing on a table in the castle. A path leads to the top of the fall, where, from a projecting rock, the spectator has a tremendous view down the furious cataract, as it pours below the eye. In short, imagination can scarce conceive a situation more awfully romantic.

Other cataracts and fine cascades are seen in different places in this neighbourhood ; but these our narrow plan permits us not to enumerate. The banks of the river, on both sides, are adorned with woods and orchards, and enriched with many elegant country seats and villas.

From

From Lanerk, passing the village of *Carstairs*, a few miles to the east we meet the small town of *Carnwath*. In this neighbourhood, and along the Clyde to the south-east, there is much cultivation and rich pasture.

To the south of Carnwath is the town of *Biggar*. Here is seen the ruin of a collegiate church, founded in 1545.

The lands about the villages of *Coulter* and *Lammington* are fertile, but farther up the Clyde, we meet with nothing but sheep walks and pasture-grounds, in tracing it to its source.

In the southern part of the shire, generally called *Clydesdale*, the country is not less wild. Among the mountains here, or rather in a hollow near their summit, we meet with the village of *Leadbills*, by some said to be the highest human habitation

habitation in the island of Great Britain. Here, however, reside many hundreds of miners, with their families. These miners, though in a great measure excluded from society, by their situation, yet not only find means to procure a comfortable subsistence, but also pay more attention to the cultivation of the mind, than many of their countrymen, situated seemingly in more favourable circumstances for the attainment of knowledge. As an evidence of this, they are very intelligent, and have provided a circulating library for the instruction and amusement of the little community belonging to the village.

Amid these mountains, particles of gold have sometimes been found washed down by the rains and streams of water; but this desert tract is chiefly valuable for producing metals of inferior worth. ‘ Nothing (says Mr Pennant)

‘ can equal the gloomy appearance of
‘ the country round. Neither tree, nor
‘ shrub, nor verdure, nor picturesque
‘ rock, appear to amuse the eye. The
‘ spectator must plunge into the bowels
‘ of these mountains for entertainment.’
The veins of lead lie mostly north and
south, and their thickness, which seldom
exceeds forty feet, varies greatly in dif-
ferent parts. Some have been found fil-
led with ore within two fathoms of the
surface; others sink to the depth of
ninety fathoms. The Earl of Hopeton,
the proprietor, has in his possession a so-
lid mass of lead-ore, from these mines,
weighing five tons. His Lordship has
also, it is said, a piece of native gold that
weighs two ounces, which was found
here. The lead smelted at this place is
all sent to Leith, where it has the privi-
lege of being exported free of duty.

The scanty pasture afforded by this
barren region, feeds some sheep and cat-
tle;

tle; but those, in the neighbourhood of the mines, sometimes perish by drinking of the water in which the lead-ore has been washed; for the lead-ore communicates a deleterious quality to the water, though that liquid acquires no hurtful taint from remaining in leaden pipes or cisterns. North from this mountainous region lies *Crawfordmuir*.

About nine miles north of Leadhills, on the east side of the small river *Douglas*, which falls into the Clyde a few miles below, stands Douglas castle, for many ages the residence of the second family in Scotland. A modern building has been erected on the same site, in imitation of the ancient castle. Near it stands the town of Douglas. A few miles to the north-east is *Tinto*, a remarkable conic mountain, round the base of which the Clyde makes a noble sweep. Westward, beyond Douglas, the small river *Netham* descends into the Clyde,

through the populous parish of *Lismabago*.

Hamilton house, the seat of the Duke of Hamilton, stands in a plain between the rivers Clyde and Avon. It is a magnificent structure, surrounded by many venerable oaks. In the vicinity is the town of *Hamilton*, which contains many handsome houses. Here are seen the ruins of a collegiate church, founded in 1451.

At a little distance from *Hamilton house* is an elegant appendage to it, called *Chatelherault*, the name of the ancient possessions held by the family in France. This building is seated on the river *Avon*, and is surrounded by woods and deep dells, and every rural beauty that can produce a pleasing effect on the imagination.

On

On the west of Hamilton is the little town of *Kilbride*, and to the south that of *Strathavon*, surrounded by the fertile tract from which it derives its name. In our way from Hamilton to Glasgow, we meet with the ancient borough of *Rutherglen*, inhabited chiefly by weavers and other manufacturers.

The village of *Govan* stands on the same side of the river on the road from Glasgow to Renfrew.

The banks of the Clyde, especially a little above Hamilton, are enriched with many valuable orchards, some of which are several acres in extent.

LINLITHGOW.

THE shire of Linlithgow, or *West Lothian*, is bounded on the north by the Frith of Forth. The small river Almond divides it from Edinburghshire, on the east. On the south-west it joins the county of Lanerk; and on the west it is parted from Stirlingshire by Avon, a small river. Its form, though irregular, approaches to a parallelogram. It measures from north-east to south-west, nearly twenty miles. Its breadth, except on the shore of the Frith, does not exceed twelve.

In the borough of Linlithgow, now the county town, the Kings of Scotland formerly had one of their noblest palaces. This magnificent pile is now a ruin. It stands on a rising ground overlooking a lake,

lake, at the east end of the town. In this palace strangers are shown the room in which Mary Queen of Scots was born. The town is ancient, pretty large, regular and tolerably well built. Here is seen the window from which the Earl of Murray, Regent of Scotland, was shot.

On the south side of the Forth stands the village of *Borrowstounness*, or *Bo-ness*, enveloped in the smoke of its numerous coaleries and salt-works.

A little below appears *Blackness Castle*, situated on a low point of land running into the Frith, which here forms a safe and extensive harbour. In former times, this castle commanded the pass between Stirling and Edinburgh. About a century ago it served as a state prison.

Hopeton House, the seat of the family of Hopeton, a most elegant structure, is situated on an extensive lawn, stretching

out in the front of the house. The Frith of Forth here exhibits the appearance of a great lake, interspersed with islands, and enlivened with a variety of shipping. For several miles behind the house, the country is diversified with fine plantations, rich corn fields, and verdant pasture ground. Around this beautiful scenery arise mountains in various forms, and at various distances. In short, the whole prospect, as far as the eye can reach, is truly great and noble. On the opposite shore of the Forth, the ruins of the castle where it is said the mother of Oliver Cromwell was born, is a striking object.

At the small borough of *Queensferry**, the Frith is very narrow. About midway, between this place and the North Ferry,

* This place is so called, from being the usual passage of Queen Margaret, wife of Malcolm III. in 1070, from Edinburgh to her palace at Dunfermline.

Ferry, on the coast of Fife, lies the island of *Inchgarvie*, adorned with an ancient fort, which might effectually command the pass from the mouth of the Frith to Stirling. 'The country between Stirling and Queensferry,' says Mr Pennant, 'is not to be paralleled for the elegance and variety of its prospects. The whole is a composition of all that is great and beautiful. Towns, villages, seats, and ancient towers, decorate each bank of that fine expanse of water, the Frith of Forth; while the busy scenes of commerce and rural œconomy are no small addition to the still life. The lofty mountains of the Highlands form a distant, but august boundary toward the north-west; and the eastern view is enlivened with ships perpetually appearing or vanishing, amid the numerous isles.'

In

In the eastern angle of the county, is *Barnbogle*, the seat of the family of *Roseberry*, furrounded by fine pleasure-grounds.

To the south-west, appears the village of *Kirkliston*, on the banks of the little river *Almond*.

In the higher and less fertile tract, which occupies the southern angle of this shire, are the villages of *Bathgate* and *Whitburn*.

EDIN-

EDINBURGH.

THE shire of Edinburgh is sometimes called *Mid Lothian*. On the north it is divided from Fifeshire by the Frith of Forth; on the east it is bounded by the counties of Haddington and Berwick; on the south by Peebles-shire; on the west and north-west by Lanerk and Linlithgow shires. Fancy may give to its form a resemblance to the expanded wings of a bird, having one point stretched toward the south-east, the other to the south-west. Its length between the extreme points is about thirty-five miles; its greatest breadth sixteen.

The Frith of Forth, between the port of Leith and Kinghorn on the opposite shore, is about seven miles broad. Nearly midway in this passage, we meet the
desolate

desolate little island of *Inchkeith*, on which there is a ruinous fort. In 1549, the English fleet sent to assist the Lords of the Congregation against the Queen-dowager, took possession of this island, and began to fortify it; but they were soon expelled by the French, under Mary of Lorraine. These were defeated in their turn, and the fortifications abandoned.

A few miles to the west lies *Grammond island*, barren like the other, and only inhabited by a few straggling sheep, and a multitude of rabbits. This island is within a mile of the southern shore, and is accessible on the sand at ebb tide.

To the north-east lies the naked insular rock called *Mickry*, covered with various sea-fowls.

A little to the west, and nearer the coast of Fife, is the island of *Inchcolm*,
on

on which stands the fine ruin of its once celebrated monastery. This monastery was founded in 1123, by Alexander I. In passing the frith, this Prince, it is said, was overtaken with a violent storm, which drove him on this island, where he met with a very hospitable reception from a poor hermit, then residing on it, who, for three days that the King remained tempest-bound, entertained him with the milk of his cow, and a few shell-fish. His Majesty, from a sense of the danger he had escaped, and in gratitude to the saint to whom he attributed his safety, here founded a monastery of Augustines, and dedicated it to St Columba. At present, some fowls that haunt the ancient tower, and the rabbits that lodge in the mouldering soil, have full possession of this neglected spot. The shore of this island, like that of Inchkeith, is bold and rugged, exhibiting several deep caverns, shelving cliffs and towering rocks.

Leith

Leith is the sea-port of Edinburgh. It is a large and populous town, containing many handsome modern houses, though the ancient buildings are for most part neither elegant nor commodious. The town stands on both sides of the harbour, and is thus divided into North and South Leith. The harbour is formed by a noble stone pier, which was built in the beginning of the present century, at the mouth of the little river called the Water of Leith. This harbour is now greatly improved, and accommodated with an elegant drawbridge and a good quay. When the proposed new basin and docks are added, this place will become in every respect a safe, capacious and convenient station for trading vessels. The road of Leith affords good anchoring ground for ships of the greatest size. In 1781, a fleet of above five hundred sail of merchant ships, under convoy of several ships of the line, remained here for some weeks, and were supplied with
fresh

fresh provisions and vegetables from the Edinburgh market, without any rise in the price of those articles. The commerce of this place is very considerable; and the vessels employed in the London trade are in general of a large size, and constructed with peculiar elegance. The largest ships at this port, however, are those employed in the Greenland whale-fishery. The port of Leith is happily situated for the navigation of the eastern seas. To Germany, Holland, and the Baltic, are exported lead, glass-ware, linen and woollen stuffs, and a variety of other goods. From thence are imported immense quantities of timber, oak-bark, hides, linen rags, pearl ashes, flax, hemp, tar, and many other articles. From France, Spain and Portugal, wines, brandy, oranges and lemons. From the West Indies and America, rice, indigo, rum, sugar and logwood *. Ships of considerable

* Arnot's History of Edinburgh, p. 576.

able size are built at this port, and several extensive rope-works are here carried on. The flourishing manufacture of bottle-glass, window-glass and crystal, under the direction of gentlemen possessed of great ingenuity and opulence, well merits notice. Three glass-houses have long been employed in this business, and three others have lately been erected. A great carpet manufacture, a soap-work, and some iron forges, are also worthy of mention.

The number of inhabitants in Leith some time ago was reckoned to be about twelve thousand; but from the increase of population, we suppose there are more. There are belonging to the established Church three places of public worship. Of these, that called St Mary's in South Leith, is a collegiate charge. The building is in the Gothic style, and of some antiquity. Of the other ancient buildings in Leith, the

the most remarkable are, an hospital for disabled seamen, and a building erected by James VI. partly as an asylum for indigent old women, and partly for a grammar-school.

The Citadel in North Leith was fortified in the time of Oliver Cromwell; but these works were demolished at the restoration of Charles II. The sea has, for these several years, been making rapid encroachments in the neighbourhood of this place on the north side of the river.

A little to the south-west of the Citadel stands a small fortification or *Battery*, as it is called, of which the guns command the entrance of the harbour.

About a mile to the south-east of Leith is the loch and village of *Restalrig* (pronounced *Lesterrick*). In this village are the remains of a collegiate church, found-

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ed by King James III. The cemetery around this church is much used as the burying place of persons of distinction. Over a sort of vault or mausoleum, is here seen a tumulus of earth, planted with yew trees. In this vault are buried many persons of high rank. It belonged first to the family of Restalrig, then to the Lords of Balmerino, and is now the property of the Earl of Moray.

The communication between Leith and the city of Edinburgh, is by a great road of an easy ascent, extending about a mile and a half. It has a kind of terrace, for a foot-path, raised of dry gravel along its east side, called Leith Walk. On the west side of this road lies the Botanic Garden. The whole fields on either side exhibit a continued tract of garden and nursery grounds. Toward the City, both sides of the road are adorned with elegant buildings.

EDINBURGH,

EDINBURGH, the metropolis of Scotland, may be said to stand on three hills, running nearly in a parallel direction from east to west. The middle ridge, which is narrow and steep, and more than a mile in length, is covered by the buildings of the Old Town. The North Town occupies an elevated plain, from which the ground descends on all sides with a gentle declivity. The south part of the City, is also on a rising ground, from which the slope is nowhere very abrupt.

The Old Town is remarkable for the peculiarity of its situation. From the castle, which stands on the western summit of the hill, a fine street, a mile long, and for most part ninety feet broad, extends nearly in a straight line to the palace of Holyroodhouse, and occupies almost the whole flat part of the ridge. This is very properly termed the High Street. On each side of this steep hill, the

Y 2 buildings

buildings are disposed in rows, forming narrow lanes, here called Clofes, stretching, with some regularity, toward the north and south. Many of these structures are of vast height, but so crowded together, and, as it were, piled on each other, that they are by no means remarkable for beauty or cleanliness. The form of the old city of Edinburgh has been compared, not unaptly, to that of a turtle; the castle being the head; the High Street, the ridge of the back; the wynds and clofes, the shelving sides; and the palace of Holyroodhouse, the tail. The hill on which the Old Town is seated, had once a lake on each side. The street called the Cowgate, occupies the bottom of the southern valley, drained of its waters. The northern one, which is the deepest, is now also drained; and the ugly morafs that remains, is still known by the name of the North Loch.

The

The castle being pitched on a vast rock, high, rugged, and precipitous, with a draw-bridge on the only accessible side, might well be considered in ancient times as almost impregnable; and such is its antiquity, that historians have been unable to trace its origin. At present, it is regarded as a place of no considerable strength. It is, however, a commodious station for soldiers; and the works are kept in good repair. The eastern battery is mounted with large brass guns, which are fired on rejoicing days. In the castle, strangers are shewn the apartment in which the unfortunate Queen of Scots, in 1566, brought forth King James VI. the Monarch who afterwards inherited the crowns of England and Scotland.

The church of St Giles is very ancient. In 1466, it was erected into a collegiate church by James III. but it is thought to have been originally found-

ed in 854. This fine Gothic structure stands on the south side of the High Street, about a quarter of a mile below the castle. Its elevated situation gives it a majestic appearance. Under its roof there are four churches, one of which has lately been richly ornamented in the modern taste. Over this church there is a lofty square tower, from which rise several slender arches of exquisite mason-work, terminating in a point, and supporting a handsome spire. The whole being adorned with small turrets, exhibits the resemblance of an imperial crown, surrounded with its circlet. In this steeple there is a set of musical bells. This noble edifice has very lately been painted and repaired, so as to be in some fort modernized ; but much of its original grandeur is eclipsed by the numerous shops that surround its walls.

Near to this is the building where the Scottish Parliament usually convened.

It

It was founded in the 1631. At present it is occupied by the Court of Session, and the Barons of Exchequer. The lofty roof of the great hall, lately repaired and embellished, is a magnificent sight.

In the Square, called the Parliament Close, there is a fine equestrian statue of Charles II. cast in metal.

The Royal Exchange, on the opposite side of the street, is an extensive building, in form of a square, with a court in the centre. It was founded in 1753.

The Tron Church, founded in 1637, is an old building modernized, and now rendered neat and commodious. It supports a square steeple of no considerable height.

A little below the Tron Church, stood the Netherbow Port, now totally removed.

ved*. Below this place, the High Street takes the name of Canongate. Two handsome streets have been lately built, adjoining to the Canongate: New Street extending to the north, and St John's Street to the south.

The Palace of Holyroodhouse is not of great antiquity. The north-west towers were built for a royal residence, by James V. The remaining part of the building was erected during the reign of Charles II. This palace forms a grand square, with a court in the centre, surrounded with piazzas. Over the west door, in the front of the palace, is a small cupola, the roof of which exhibits an imperial crown, in stone work. On the north, there is a spacious gallery, hung with the imaginary pictures of one hundred and eleven monarchs, from Fer-

gus

* For a minute account of the ancient public buildings in the City, the reader may consult Arnot's History of Edinburgh. Book II.

gus I. to James VI. These paintings are, however, in a very inferior style. In the north-west tower, is shewn the chamber where Queen Mary sat at supper, when Rizzio was dragged from her side, and killed; and the private stair through which Ruthven entered in complete armour, to head this bloody enterprise. The Gothic Abbey adjoining to the palace, was founded by David I. in 1128. At the restoration of Charles II. it was converted into a royal chapel, of which only the magnificent ruins now remain.

With regard to the buildings that have of late risen in this City, with such incredible rapidity, we may venture to say, that, in regularity and magnificence, they are scarce equalled, or at least not excelled by any in Europe.

The communication between the north and south parts of the City, is facilitated by two noble bridges. The
North

North Bridge, founded by Provost Drummond, in 1763, is a fine specimen of modern architecture. The South Bridge, which is as elegant, though less stupendous, was begun by Provost Hunter Blair, in 1785.

A stranger entering from the south, after passing several spacious streets, is surprised to find himself transported, by means of these bridges, over two deep valleys, through a splendid avenue of shops, amid a continued display of elegance and opulence.

At the northern extremity of the two bridges, stands the Register Office, a vast pile of modern architecture, possessing that character of grandeur and stability, that strongly marks its fitness for the purpose to which it is applied. From this place, Princes Street stretches almost a mile to the west, in a straight line. The houses of this street face the
Old

Old City, and are regular and uniform through its whole extent. Were the deformed marsh, and rugged declivity, which at present appear in front of this fine street, converted into a smooth meadow and sloping bank, it would contribute not a little to the beauty of its situation. At the head of the North Loch (as this marsh is called) stands St Cuthbert's, or the West Church, now decorated with a handsome spire.

We ought not to omit mentioning the great earthen mound opposite to Hanover Street, composed of the rubbish from the foundations of the new buildings, and which now forms a broad and convenient passage to the Old City.

Near the centre of the North Town is St Andrew's Square, an assemblage of uniform and elegant buildings. Its appearance in March 1789, when every pane of glass in this wide circuit was
richly

richly illuminated, on the joyful occasion of his Majesty's recovery, deserves remembrance. The united splendour and magnificence of the scene dazzled and overpowered the beholder, and produced a sublimity of effect more easily imagined than described. Indeed, from the height and different elevations of the buildings in the Old Town also, perhaps no illumination, in any country, ever produced a finer effect.

On the east side of this square is distinguished the beautiful structure erected by the late Sir Laurence Dundas, now occupied as an Excise Office. This edifice is justly esteemed a fine model of correct design and exquisite workmanship.

From this square, George's Street extends to the west. On the north side of this street stands St Andrew's Church, adorned with a tall, and very handsome spire.

spire. Opposite to it is the Physicians hall; and a little farther to the west, the New Assembly Rooms, a ponderous building.

Queen's Street presents its front to the north, and is consequently exposed to cold piercing winds in the winter season. This, however, is compensated by the beauty of its prospect, and the salubrity of the air. Though this be the most northerly, it is one of the noblest streets of the City.

The buildings of the South Town, though inferior to those of the North, are very elegant and extensive. At the south-east corner of George's Square, there is a neat private assembly room, and at a little distance a hall for the accommodation of the Royal Company of Archers. But the most striking object in the south part of the City will soon be the New College.

The

The University of Edinburgh has long diffused knowledge and polite literature through a very extensive circle; and its fame has reached the most distant parts of the world. Here the arts and the sciences flourish; and above all, the medical school rises under the fostering hands of men whose names will ever hold a high rank in the annals of literature. The antiquated buildings allotted to the use of the Professors and students in this illustrious seminary, have been for many years regarded as unworthy of so noble a purpose. A New College is therefore now begun on an elegant plan, under the direction of an eminent architect*. It was founded by Provost Elder in 1789; and people of all ranks have cheerfully and liberally contributed to the execution of this important work.

The

* MR ROBERT ADAMS.

The High School is also worthy of notice, not only for the neatness and convenience of the fabric, but for the ability and success of the teachers.

Of the public buildings in Edinburgh, we shall only enumerate a few, in addition to those already mentioned. The principal charitable institutions are as follow: Heriot's Hospital, founded in 1628, a beautiful Gothic pile. The funds of this charity are considerable, and the boys receive a good education. Watson's Hospital, founded in 1738, is conducted on a more liberal plan. Its chief intention is to support the sons of decayed merchants. Besides, there are a Trades Hospital and a Merchants Hospital, for girls. The first founded in 1704, the other in 1707. There are also three charity work-houses, an alms-house, called Trinity Hospital, and an hospital for Orphans. This last was founded by Mr Andrew Gardner in 1734. It long remained

mained an inconsiderable charity; but, chiefly by the unremitting exertions of its present Treasurer*, it is now become one of the most elegant and extensive charitable establishments in the City. The Royal Infirmary, incorporated by charter in 1736, is a very beneficial institution. For this fine edifice, the public is indebted to the patriotic George Drummond, Esq; It has been lately new painted and embellished. This charity, under the direction of several able Physicians, not only affords relief to diseased indigence, but opens a wide field of observation and practical knowledge to the medical student. The public Dispensary, founded by Dr Duncan in 1776, also contributes to the same important purposes. Supported by medical gentlemen of distinguished humanity, and literary abilities, it is an excellent supplement to the former institution, by affording assistance

* Mr THOMAS TOD.

to the poor, in such cases as require not the confinement of the patient.

It would greatly exceed our narrow limits, to enumerate all the remarkable buildings, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches, and places of worship for sectaries of every denomination, in and about the City.

The public places of amusement are the Assembly Rooms; the Concert Hall; the Theatre Royal; and the newly erected Equestrian Circus. Neither of these last mentioned buildings possess much exterior beauty; but within they are well finished, and highly decorated.

The hotels and inns of Edinburgh also merit notice. The elegant accommodation, and ready service, we find in these, are scarcely exceeded in the metropolis of Britain.

Edinburgh, with its dependencies, is supposed to contain about one hundred thousand inhabitants.

The water which supplies the City, is conveyed in cast iron-pipes, from Comiston, a place about four miles distant to the west.

Among other improvements, a canal has been projected, which might open a communication between Edinburgh and Glasgow. It is proposed that it should commence at the termination of the Monkland Canal,—proceed through Lanerkshire and West Lothian,—touch at Edinburgh, and terminate in Leith. The immense advantages to trade that might arise from the execution of this plan, are sufficiently obvious.

The trade of Edinburgh, though considerable, is by no means the only source of its importance. Besides possessing a University,

University, which attracts numerous strangers from every part of the world, it is the seat of the Supreme Court of Scotland. The Senators of the College of Justice, and the Members of that Honourable Court, with their various dependents, constitute the most opulent, and perhaps the most numerous class of the community in this place. The Banks of Edinburgh too, are, as it were, the treasury of Scotland; and most of the private Banking Houses have correspondents in almost every great city of Europe and America.

Another circumstance, which has contributed much to circulate money, and encourage trade in Edinburgh within these twenty years, is the immense operations of building, which have been carried on in that period.

The distilling of spirituous liquors was lately a considerable branch of manufacture,

nufacture, not only about Edinburgh, but over all Scotland; that trade has, however, now very much declined. One of the most extensive distilleries, is that erected near the village of *Canonmills*, about a mile north from Edinburgh. In the vicinity of Canonmills, are several fine villas, embellished with plantations and pleasure-grounds.

The *Calton Hill* rises on the north-east of the City. Around this hill, a path is cut, from which there is a very extensive and beautiful prospect. On the summit, an Observatory was begun several years ago, which still remains unfinished. At present, it is in contemplation to erect a building of more general utility on the south side of this hill. A Bridewell has long been a desideratum with every friend of the City; and a plan of a building for this purpose, has been lately made by an eminent architect, and a bill prepared to be laid before Parliament,

Parliament, for enabling the Magistrates to erect a Bridewell and Prison in this situation.

Salisbury Craig, a hill on the south side of the City, is remarkable for a great precipice of solid rock, about a mile in length, and in some parts a hundred feet high, that passes pretty regularly along its brow. Beyond this is seen the pointed top of *Arthur's Seat*. In these hills many beautiful variegated stones of the jasper kind are found, susceptible of a high polish, and much esteemed by lapidaries.

On the north-west side of *Arthur's Seat* are the ruins of *St Anthony's chapel*, with its adjacent hermitage. At the east end of the ruin, there are still two niches to be seen, in one of which stood a scull and a book; in the other an hour-glass and a lamp, which, with a mat for a bed, made the general furni-

ture of a hermitage. At the foot of the hill, is a pure spring, celebrated in the melancholy ditty of 'St Anton's Well.'

On the east of Arthur's Seat, are the lake and village of *Duddingston*, with the elegant seat and pleasure grounds belonging to the Marquis of Abercorn.

To the south-west is *Blackford Hill*, on the south side of which, some cupreous earth, of a greenish colour, is observed intermixed with the sparry rocks, which seems to indicate a copper vein in the neighbourhood.

About a mile to the south-east of Edinburgh, is the ruinous castle of *Craig-millar*, which the fair Queen of Scots made the place of her residence, after her return from Paris in 1561. Her French retinue were lodged in an adjacent village, thence called *Little France*. Here too that unfortunate Princess, repenting

penting her rash match with Darnly, would often retire from the public eye, and indulge her melancholy in private. In this neighbourhood, much lime is burnt, and from hence the builders in Edinburgh are supplied in abundance with that necessary article. To the south-west, stands the village of *Libberton*, with its old tower.

Near the mouth of the river *Falk*, we find the village of *Inveresk*. In 1783, the subterraneous remains of a Roman hypocaust or hot-bath were discovered at this place. The towns of *Musselburgh* and *Fisherrow* are situated nearer the sea-coast. *Inveresk* and *Musselburgh* are on the east side, *Fisherrow* on the west side of the river. These contain many handsome houses, and several elegant villas are seen in the vicinity.

At the eastern angle of the county, stands *Pinkie House*, near which is *Pinkie*

kie Cleugh, remarkable for the victory there gained by the English in 1547. The Frith of Forth, when viewed from this place, has the appearance of a beautiful lake or inland sea, formed by the retiring coast of Fife on the one hand, and the rich shores of the Lothians on the other. Near its mouth, the Frith is only nine miles broad; but here it expands to the width of eighteen, the distance between Muffelburgh and Largo Bay, on the coast of Fife.

The river *Esk* is formed by the junction of the branches called North and South *Esk*. These two streams seem to encircle the town of *Dalkeith*, passing on each side of the eminence on which it stands, and uniting their waters a little below the town. *Dalkeith*, though not a royal borough, is a considerable place. It contains one very handsome street, and has a great weekly market for corn and oat-meal.

The

The Palace of Dalkeith is a magnificent structure, the seat of the family of Buccleugh. It stands on a knoll, overlooking the confluence of the north and south branches of the Esk. The approach to the house and the banks of the river, are adorned with plantations. Many of the trees are very ancient, and of an uncommon size.

In the vicinity of Dalkeith, there are several elegant villas; among which is distinguished the seat of Lord Somerville, embosomed in wood.

A little to the south stands *Newbottle House*, a fine seat of the Marquis of Lothian. This handsome building is beautifully situated on the woody bank of the South Esk. Around the house there are many very large trees. There was here an Abbey, founded by David in 1140.

Near

Near *Cockpen House*, are seen the vestiges of a Roman camp. The ancient castle and family seat of the Earl of *Dalhousie*, is now in some measure modernized. The deep chasm on the south-east side of this castle, is covered with a thicket of trees and shrubs, below which the South Esk, a rapid stream, is heard rushing along its rocky bottom.

To the east stands *Preston Hall*, the elegant seat of Lord Adam Gordon; *Granston* and *Coulsland*, the property of Baron Dalrymple, and other fine villas.

The coal works of *Gilmerton* and others in this neighbourhood, supply fuel to the city of Edinburgh; and those of *Stobhill*, *Vogrie*, and *Arniston* furnish coal to the whole country for above twenty miles to the south. Proceeding southward, we find several ancient fortalices, among which are the castles of *Crichton* and *Borthwick*. The first has
been

been partly modernized. The other, though originally built by Lord Borthwick, was once the property of the Earl of Bothwell, who, before the battle of Carberry Hill, took refuge here with his fair consort.

To the west of Borthwick Castle, stands the house of Arncliffe, the elegant seat of the late Lord President Dundas, so eminently distinguished for his penetration, skill and assiduity as a Judge. It is now in the possession of his son, who inherits his father's abilities, as well as his fortune.

The south-eastern angle of this shire, is not in general very fertile. *Middleton House* is a handsome country seat, surrounded by plantations, and having the village of *Middleton* belonging to it. In *Heriot Muir*, where there is now much cultivation, arises the little river *Gala*, which, passing through a hilly country,

country, enters Selkirkshire a little below the small village of *Stow*.

Returning to Dalkeith, and tracing up the northern branch of the Esk, we find the elegant structure of *Melville Castle*, now modernized. In the valley below the castle, there is a paper mill, surrounded by the woody banks of the Esk. The scenery of this place is very picturesque and beautiful. Farther up the river, among other handsome seats, is that of the celebrated historian and poet DRUMMOND of *Hatborndean*. The house and old castle stand on the brink of a vast precipice of freestone; the river flows at the bottom of a deep glen beneath. Here are seen various caverns, which have been cut with much labour out of the rock. ‘The grand apartment,’ says Mr Pennant, ‘faces the door, and is ninety feet long; its width, at the entrance, is twelve feet; but it tapers inward. The height is
fix.

‘ fix. In a recess of the broader part, there is a well some fathoms deep. Above is cut a funnel, which pierces the roof, and admits the light.’ From this apartment are passages to several galleries or rooms on both sides. Some have supposed that these caverns are the work of the Picts; but others are of opinion, that they have been designed as an asylum, in troublesome times, for some neighbouring inhabitants. These caves are said to have been, in 1341, the residence of the brave Alexander Ramsay, who, with a train of other youthful adventurers, used to make incursions into the north of England.

About two miles above, on the opposite side of the river, stand *Roslin* chapel and castle. The chapel is one of the most entire specimens of Gothic architecture in Scotland. It was built about the 1440. Its sides are supported by buttresses, like King’s College chapel and

and Westminster Abbey. The ruinous castle, once the seat of the family of SINCLAIR, stands on a peninsulated rock. It is accessible by a bridge of considerable height, and overlooks a deep valley covered with wood. The rapid little river forcing its way through the rocky channel beneath, and the trees that overhang the surrounding bank, exhibit a view truly picturesque. To a Scotsman, the romantic beauty of this place is not a little heightened by associating with the scenery around him, the idea of the pleasing and well known melody of which Roslin castle is the subject.

In the neighbourhood are seen the ruins of *Woodhouselee*, a small castellated mansion, on the summit of a factitious mount.

To the south is the village of *Pennycuik*, remarkable for the extensive cotton work in its vicinity. Pennycuik house,

house, the seat of Sir John Clerk, is a handsome modern building, surrounded by a wide plain, reaching to the base of *Pentland bills*. That ridge of mountains extends about ten miles from south-west to north-east; and the country in this tract, and as far as the south-west angle of the shire, is chiefly employed in pasturage. In these mountains there are some traces of copper and lead-ore; but no mine of those metals has hitherto been worked with advantage. In the neighbourhood of Pennycuik, however, there are valuable and extensive coal-works. The want of wood in this tract, and indeed the scantiness of plantations between this and the English borders, may have induced hasty travellers to reproach Scotland as a country destitute of trees.

From the north side of Pentland hills descends the little river *Leith*. After passing *Currie*, *Collington*, and several other

ther villages, it is discharged into the sea, as already mentioned, at Leith harbour.

Many country seats and plantations, possessing much picturesque beauty, are seen on the banks of this river. Near *Maleny* a copper mine was formerly worked; and tradition says, that in the neighbourhood of Currie a silver mine was once discovered. Several fine freestone quarries are opened in this tract, from which the builders in Edinburgh are supplied with vast quantities of beautiful stone. Valuable medicinal springs burst out at different places on the banks of this river. These waters are gently diuretic, and are thought beneficial in complaints of the stomach and bowels. Of these the most remarkable is *St Bernard's Well*, near Edinburgh. Here a gentleman, eminently distinguished for his liberality and patriotic exertions,

tions, has lately bestowed a large sum, in securing and embellishing this fountain of health, for the convenience and pleasure of the inhabitants of the City. Happy it is indeed, when the goods of fortune fall into the hands of such a possessor!

About three miles west from Edinburgh appears the village of *Corstorphine*, noted for its cream. It is situated on the declivity of a beautiful green hill; and in its vicinity there are several fine villas, and country seats.

On the coast, a little to the west of Leith, stands the fishing village of *Newhaven*, off which there is an oyster bank. The fishing on the Frith has, however, been on the decline for several years. At *Royston*, or *Caroline park*, there is an old building, amid a fine plantation of full grown trees.

Crammond is a small village on the coast, situated at the north-west angle of the county. This place is remarkable for the traces of a great Roman station. The *Almond* here falls into the sea, and is known by the name of *Crammond Water*. This little river, for several miles, divides Mid Lothian from Linlithgowshire. Its banks are fertile, and embellished with several villages and country seats. Among these are *Ratbo*, *Chiltonhall*, and *Hutton* the elegant villa of the Earl of Lauderdale. *Mid Calder* is the only town in this neighbourhood. *East Calder* is a small village to the north-east of the former. *West Calder*, which stands near the south-west corner of the county, is also but an inconsiderable place. The face of the country is here bleak and barren, and the soil better fitted for pasturage than cultivation.

HADDINGTON.

THIS shire is sometimes called *East Lothian*. It is bounded on the north-west, by the Frith of Forth; on the east, by the German Sea; on the south-east, by Berwickshire; and on the west, by the county of Edinburgh. It extends about twenty-five miles from east to west, and, where broadest, nearly fifteen from north to south. The coast, advancing northward into the Frith, forms an irregular curve.

At the north-west angle of the county, stands the town of *Prestonpans*, noted for its salt-works. Near this place the King's army, under Sir John Cope, (whose name is the burden of a song) met with a repulse by the Highlanders, in 1745.

A great tract of this county, extending to the south and the east, being for most part champaign, is very fertile and beautiful. The ground is in many places doubly productive. Rich crops are raised on the surface, and immense quantities of coal are dug from the inexhaustible mines below.

Port Seaton, a village on the coast, has a considerable trade in salt and coal. Amid ancient trees, stands the ruinous palace of *Seaton*, in which the celebrated Queen of Scots, at times, kept her court, after her return from France. In the chapel there are several curious marble monuments.

Further back from the coast, is the village and extensive wood of *Gladsmuir*. A few miles to the west, stands the village of *Tranent*: South from it, that of *Ormiston*, with its coalery. In this neighbourhood, are the village and house
of

of *Pentcailtland*; the ruinous palace of *Winton*; *Salton*, the elegant seat of General Fletcher; and, to the south of *Salton*, *Newhall* and *Yester*, both seats of the Marquis of Tweeddale, near which we find the village and coalery of *Gifford*. The country is adorned with wood; and between this and Haddington, there are many fine country seats.

Haddington, though a populous town, and a royal borough, possesses no considerable trade. Being situated on a plain, it has sometimes been subjected to inundations of the *Tyne*, a rapid river, which descends from the mountains on the south. In 1421, the waters of this river rose to such a height, that many of the houses in the town were swept away; and the people, on the festival of St Nicholas, went to church in a boat. Within these twenty years also, a remarkable inundation of the river occurred, which did much damage in the town. The Fran-

ciscan Monastery here, has been a very handsome building. Part of it is at present occupied as a parish church. At a little distance, are the ruins of a Nunnery, founded in 1178.

On the east side of Haddington, stands the elegant seat of the Earl of Wemyss, called *Amisfield*, surrounded by thriving and extensive plantations.

In the flat country between Haddington and the shore, the soil is well adapted for the produce of wheat and other grain. Several handsome country seats are seen in this tract. The village of *Aberlady* is remarkable for its extensive links or downs, abounding with rabbits.

The borough of *North Berwick*, is an inconsiderable town. Near it, is *Dirleton*, the seat of the family of NISBET. On the south, towers the Conic Hill, called
North

North Berwick Law, partly covered with trees. Around the shore are scattered several small islands.

The ruinous castle of *Tantallon*, which was demolished by the covenanters in 1639, stands about two miles east from the town of North Berwick, on a high rock, overlooking the sea, which surrounds it on three sides; its shape being half an irregular hexagon. A mile from the shore, appears the *Bass*, a great insulated rock, on the south side almost conic; on the other side, overhanging the sea in a tremendous manner. The ruinous castle, once the state prison of Scotland, stands at the edge of the precipice, facing the little village of Castleton. This rock has long been celebrated for its gannets or solan geese. Dr Harvey gives the following account of this island: 'The Bass isle is not more than

' a mile in circumference. The surface

' is almost wholly covered during the

A a 4

' month

‘ month of May and June with nests,
‘ eggs, and young birds, so that it is
‘ scarce possible to walk without treading
‘ on them; the flocks of birds, in flight,
‘ are so prodigious, as to darken the air
‘ like clouds; and their noise is such,
‘ that you cannot, without difficulty,
‘ hear a person speak close to you.’

In 1694, the garrison stationed here, after a long resistance, surrendered to King William, and the fortifications were demolished. A cavern runs through the rock from north-west to south-east, quite dark in the centre, where, it is said, there is a deep pool of fresh water.

At the mouth of the Tyne, stands *Tynningham*, the beautiful seat of the Earl of Haddington. In this neighbourhood, are several other seats of noblemen and gentlemen.

Dunbar

Dunbar is a royal borough. It is a well built town, having a good harbour, and a considerable share of shipping. The fish trade is here carried on very extensively; and there is sometimes a good herring fishery on the coast. The ruins of the castle, a place of great antiquity, and once an important fortress, are seated on a cliff above the sea. Under the castle, there is a large cavern, said to have been the pit or dungeon for confining prisoners,—and a dreadful one it must have been. On one side of the rock, are two natural arches, through which the tide flows. Between the harbour and the castle, is a stratum of vast basaltic columns of red grit stone. These rocks are called the Isle.

This neighbourhood has been the scene of several memorable battles. Among these were the defeat of Baliol's army, by that of Edward I. of England, in 1296; and the noted rout of the Covenanters,

nanters, in 1650, by Oliver Cromwell. It was to the castle of Dunbar also, that Edward II. fled after his defeat at Bannockburn; and here he was so closely besieged by the gallant Douglas, that he was reduced to the necessity of making his escape to Berwick in an open boat.

A little to the south-east of Dunbar, is the ancient castle of *Broxmouth*, the property of the Duke of Roxburgh.

At the south-east corner of the county, are the fine woods and family seat of *Dunglass*.

The southern part of this county is very mountainous, comprehending the north side of Lammermuir Hills. These high grounds, however, feed many sheep.

B E R.

BERWICK.

THE county of Berwick is sometimes called the *Mers*. It is confined on the north by the ridge of Lammermuir; on the east by the German Ocean; on the south-east by the Tweed, and part of Northumberland*; on the south by Roxburghshire; and on the west by the south-east wing of Edinburghshire. Its greatest extent from east to west is about thirty-two miles; from north to south sixteen. Its form is quadrangular; but all the four sides are waving and unequal.

The northern part of this shire includes a large proportion of the tract of hills formerly mentioned, called *Lammermuir*. These mountains are in general

* Or rather a detached part of Durham, *vis.* the district of Berwick upon Tweed.

neral very bleak and barren, covered with heath, and affording but scanty pasture for the sheep that feed on them. *Soutra Hill* appears to be the highest elevation of this mountainous ridge, which divides the county of Berwick from that of Haddington, for above twenty miles. This mountain was in former times a noted sea-mark, and frequently mentioned as such in the laws of James II. In this dreary part of the country there is scarce a tree or a bush; and few houses or villages worthy of mention. Great exertions have, however, been made, not without success, to improve the southern side of this mountain, near the village of *Channelkirk*.

From *Soutra Hill* descends the small river *Leader* (perhaps a corruption of *Lauder*), which flowing toward the south, gives the name of *Lauderdale* to the western part of the county.

The

The borough of *Lauder* is but a small town. It has, however, of late, been much improved. This place was the scene of a noted act of justice, insolently performed by the Scots nobility, on the upstart favourites of James III. Cochran, a mason, created Earl of Mar, Hommil, a taylor, and two or three other abject characters, directed the councils of this weak Monarch. At his Majesty's desire, the nobility assembled at *Lauder*, to consult on the means of repelling an invasion. Before proceeding on the business, they took care to seize Cochran and his mean associates, who were hanged over a bridge, in sight of the King and the whole army.

Near the town stands *Lauder* castle, an ancient seat of the Earl of *Lauderdale*. The front is bounded on all sides with great round towers, capped with slated cones. There are some plantations and old trees around the house.

The

The Leader flows along the east side of the town; then passes the *Blainlies*, noted for excellent oats; next the house of *Chapel*, and that of *Carolfide*; afterwards the town of *Earlston*, or *Ersilton*, the birth place of the celebrated Thomas the Rymer*. A little below Earlston, on a rocky bank overlooking the Leader, at the bottom of a high conic hill, stands the house of *Cowdenknows*, an old building, now in some sort modernized. On the adjacent knolls may be seen the remains of its celebrated *broom*, which has so long resounded in Scottish ditty. *Drygrange* and *Kirkland*, two handsome modern seats, are situated near the confluence of the Leader with the Tweed. The exemplary improvements made by some gentlemen who have lately resided here, afford a striking instance of the happy change that

* His real name was *Thomas Lermont*. The ruins of the little tower he possessed still remain at the west end of the village.

that may be effected in a barren country, by cultivation, liberality and good taste. At this place an elegant bridge is built over the Tweed, and another over the Leader.

At the south-western angle of the shire, on the banks of the Tweed, stand the village and family seat of *Bemireside*. Farther down the river is the village of *Dryburgh*, where are seen, amid a deep gloom of wood, the venerable remains of Dryburgh Abbey, founded by David I. Its fine ruins are the property of the Earl of Buchan, who has a villa in the neighbourhood.

Along the southern boundary of the county are several gentlemens seats. Among these is the magnificent house of *Mellerstane*, adorned with plantations and verdant parks, which form a striking contrast with the black heath that surrounds them. Along the southern boundary of the

the county, we meet with the seats of *Nentborn, Home Castle, and Eccles.*

Proceeding down the *Tweed*, we find the town of *Coldstream*, in Scotland, separated from *Cornhill* in England, only by the breadth of the river. There is here a handsome bridge over the *Tweed*. Opposite to *Norham* is *Hollywell haugh*, a green plain, remarkable for being the place where *Baliol* and *Bruce*, with the Scottish nobility, submitted to the decision of *Edward I.* in 1291.

In this neighbourhood is the house and village of *Ladykirk*, with an ancient church founded by *James IV.* in 1500. The country is here remarkably rich and well cultivated.

Returning toward the middle of the county, we find the town of *Greenlaw*, where the courts of justice are held. A little to the south-east of the town stands

Marchmont

Marchmont house, an elegant structure. Among the numerous seats that embellish this pleasant tract, we meet with the house of *Kames*, the late proprietor of which was equally distinguished for a steady application to the laborious duties of a Judge, and an unremitting ardour in the pursuits of literature; and also the family seat of *Ninewells*, where were spent the youthful days of HUME, our celebrated Philosopher and Historian, whose works will long remain an honour to his country.

The river *Whiteadder* has its source near the town of Greenlaw. Another stream called *Blackadder* proceeds from the north-western part of the county. These waters unite near the family seat of *Allanbank*; and their conjoined streams, here called the *Adder*, flow into the Tweed near Berwick.

A few miles west from Allanbank is the town of *Dunfe*, situated between the forks of the river Adder, amid a rich and fertile country. This town, though not a royal borough, is pretty populous, and has a good market.

From this we may ascend to the mountains at the north-east angle of the shire. Here we find the *Peaths*, or *Peese*, as it is commonly pronounced, a vast chasm, more than a hundred and sixty feet deep. Its banks can only be descended in an oblique direction, by tracks or paths, from which circumstance it derives its name. Over this steep pass, a magnificent bridge of four arches has been lately built. It is adorned with cast iron rails. From its stupendous height, this bridge has much the appearance of a Roman aqueduct. On the western declivity of the hill, there is a considerable wood of oak trees.

Proceeding

Proceeding along the coast, we meet with the high promontory *St Abb's head*. Near this place are the remains of a Roman station. To the south is the heathy tract called *Coldingham*, noted for the remains of a Nunnery, thought to be the oldest in Scotland. Tradition says, that a pious Abbess, named Ebba, in 867, being alarmed by the arrival of the Danes at Berwick, prevailed on the nuns to cut off their noses and upper lips, to save their chastity. The Danes, it is said, enraged at the disappointment of their brutal design, set fire to the building, and therein consumed the Abbess and her flock. This story, however, is not well authenticated.

The little river *Eye*, which descends from the north-west, after passing the village of *Ayton*, falls into the sea at *Eye-mouth*, a small port, where there is sometimes a tolerable herring fishery. The country, on this coast, is well cultivated;

and the effects of that laudable spirit of improvement, which at present so happily prevails in Scotland, are here very evident.

The southern part of the shire, is a fertile and pleasant tract; and being rather a low and flat country, it is sometimes called the *How* (or hollow) *of the Mers*.

The south-east angle of the county is occupied by *Berwick Bounds*, as this district is called. Its circuit is only seven or eight miles, and it is governed by English laws, and accounted part of an English county.

Berwick upon Tweed, when England and Scotland were hostile nations, was a town of much strength and importance. Its castle, which, in those unhappy times, was the scene of many a bloody fray, is now in ruins. The town is, however, still

still fortified, and the barracks afford good accommodation for soldiers. Over the Tweed, there is a noble bridge of fifteen arches. The salmon fishing at the mouth of the river, is here a chief source of commerce.

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ERRATA

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- 133. 5. For stalaetical read stalactitical.
- 230. 20. For Leven read Etive.
- 301. 14. For angles read angle.
- 318. 9. For occurs read bursta.
- 373. 6. Dele the words, and coalery.